ข่าวลาวทั้ง 26 ᨣᨾᩁᩣᨡᩣᨶᩁᩣᨡᩣᨶᩁᩣᨡᩣᨶ

ask the people

by Erik Williams
photos by Phil Head

What do you think of the mayoral candidates?

Pamela Poskin
Haight Ashbury
"I heard good things about Angela Alioto. But she kind of scares me because she's so rich. Agnos has lost a lot of respect because he didn't keep his promises."

John Koountz
Tenderloin
"They make promises for their campaigns and they don't keep them. They say they're going to help the blue-collar workers, but they're all going to help Nob Hill."

Malikah Shabazz
Daly City
"I'm so problemed down with being homeless and getting a job that I don't have time for politics. Art Agnos and his homeless policy is B.S. It's a whole lot of talk and no action."

Richard Biddock
Tenderloin
"The present mayor doesn't care much about the homeless. I'm sure there's enough money for the homeless, but they just have to stop drinking so much beer."

Garth Ferguson
Tenderloin
"La Riva is the best of the lot because she's been out here in the Tenderloin. The rest are either Agnos or Jordan clones."

Papa Ron
Tenderloin
"I don't pay attention because it's run by two political powers. What choice do you have? Why not get a person off the street and have them run, because they know what it's like to be hungry."

Larry Jones
Tenderloin
"I'm hoping for Alioto. I just got a good feeling that she'll address this homeless issue. She's the one that's said something. The rest of them are just sucking air."

Oscar Rice
Tenderloin
"Jordan would not be a good candidate. He's more interested in shipping them (homeless) out. An Alioto win would be a precedent-setting event. Agnos isn't totally insensitive to the homeless issue, but he just did a quick fix."

house log

by Robert V. Tobin
Executive Director
Central City Hospitality House

What a difference a day makes! At an all-staff meeting on a recent Thursday, it was a thrill to hear the Adult Program staff talk proudly about our new Support Services Center for homeless adults. After having come so far themselves, the improved facilities finally gave them the chance to "put hospitality back into Hospitality House." The staff was excited about their past accomplishments and enthusiastic about their future prospects.

On Friday, however, I saw someone whom I'd known to be vigorously pursuing his dreams. He'd always been upbeat and on the move until that day. I found him cowered in the corner of the Tenderloin Self Help Center, literally terrified by whatever had just been dealt him in the card game of life.

The change in him was so dramatic that I found myself not only shocked but also very frightened by how someone with so much going for him could fall so far so fast.

Seeing him made me realize that concern for homelessness, which tops public opinion polls, might not be rooted in compassion or revulsion, but rather in people's feelings of vulnerability and fear of homeless people. But it should be the other way around: we should fear *for* homeless people as they struggle to survive the ravages of the streets. Our city by the bay now more closely resembles Calcutta than Baghdad.

It is great to see enthusiastic staff members seize the opportunity to help our clients help themselves, thereby making the heart of San Francisco a better place for us all. What is intimidating are the powerful forces that create problems for the people we serve, forces which threaten us all.

So Long, Richard. Richard Livingston's departure after more than a decade of service to the Tenderloin and the Cadillac Hotel deserves special recognition. There are few people in the neighborhood who have achieved higher results with lower profile. This is characteristic of Reality House West's constant effort to create movement rather than simply creating motion.

Even in its absence, the Sizzler Restaurant remains a monument to both what is possible and what still remains to be done. There is no difficulty in recognizing the value of community institutions which are not economically self-sustaining. Foundations annually provide six figure grants to subsidize the opera and symphony and other important endeavors. Efforts which have had much more dramatic impact on the quality of life in our community, however, are expected to immediately establish their economic as well as social viability.

If the Tenderloin were a shopping mall, the Sizzler would be recognized as our anchor store. However, a neighborhood's "turnaround" can be measured only in decades, not in annual funding cycles. A lot of people talk about the social benefits of economic development activities, but none seem willing to pay its long-term financial costs.

All The News . . . I saw a Vietnamese man on Leavenworth Street carrying the most heavily loaded grocery bags I'd ever seen. Wherever he was going, I didn't think he was going to make it. Then he stopped in front of the House, took out a carton and started pouring water on the trees newly planted on our block by Friends of the Urban Forest. I was witnessing the ideal model for community action; individual and group efforts combined for the betterment of all. Now there's news fit to print!

letters

One of a Kind

Editors:

The Annual Tenderloin Make-A-Circus show on Saturday, Sept. 7 was a very successful event. Hundreds of kids, families, seniors, and other residents came to Eddy Street to witness this one-of-a-kind show where the children became part of the circus show.

We want to thank Make-A-Circus, St. Anthony's Foundation, and the United Tenderloin Community Fund for making this wonderful event possible for our neighborhood. We also want to thank *The Tenderloin Times*, and especially the Vietnamese Youth Development Center, for their help with this neighborhood event.

Hope to see you all there next year!

–David Tran
Tenderloin Youth Advocates

Midori Is Permanent

Editors:

In the August issue of *The Tenderloin Times*, in Julie Scheff's article "Jordan and Agnos Spar on Homeless Strategy," there is a reference to Conard House's Midori Hotel.

The article erroneously states that the length of stay at the Midori is nine months. This is not true. The Midori Hotel is permanent housing. Also, after Conard House purchased the property in August 1990, we gave up the hotel's transient license and agreed to maintain the Midori as a residential hotel.

–Joseph A. Cronin
President/CEO

The Tenderloin Times *regrets the error.*

THE TENDERLOIN TIMES

Volume 15, Number 9
October 1991

Editors.....Sara Colm, Tom McCarthy, Julie Scheff
Business Manager.....Elizabeth Price
Office Manager.....Greer Lleuad
Copy Editor.....Dana Sachs
Poetry Editor.....Robert Volbrecht
Pasteup Artist.....Greer Lleuad
Photographers.....Phil Head, Richard Hurlburt, Doug Niven
Advertising.....Eric Robertson, Marc Sopher
Distribution Manager.....Rich Goetz
Staff Reporters.....Sophath Pak, Vandy Sivongsay, Joe Tran
Interns.....Glenn Shields, Katie Fallon, Erik Williams
CONTRIBUTORS.....Sara Catania, Kathy Dalle-Molle, Dan Field, Anne Hurley, Doug Niven, Chanthanom Ounkeo, Sasha Ruda, Eric Savlin, Bac Hoai Tran
PROOFREADING.....Allison Chau, Bill McLanahan, Jim McLaren, Duc Nguyen, Dana Sachs, Stephen Vold

The Tenderloin Times
25 Taylor Street #718
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 776-0700

The Tenderloin Times is published monthly by Central City Hospitality House, a United Way agency.
146 Leavenworth Street
San Francisco, CA. 94102
(415) 776-2102

The Times cannot assume responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts or artwork.
© Central City Hospitality House
All rights revert to authors and artists on publication.
Circulation this issue 15,000
The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Board of Directors of Hospitality House.

Subscribe Today!

- Regular subscription: $15 per year
- Seniors/Low income: $5 per year
- Overseas: $40 per year
- Nonprofit organization: $20 per year
- Institution: $30 per year

Be certain to get every issue of *The Tenderloin Times*! Never again miss one because your neighbors got there first. To subscribe to *The Times*, fill out the form below and return it with a check or money order to: *The Tenderloin Times*, 25 Taylor St., #718, San Francisco, CA 94102

YES! I want a one-year subscription to *The Tenderloin Times*. Enclosed is my check or money order for ❑ $15 regular or ❑ $5 senior or low income or ❑ $20 nonprofit organizations ❑ $30 Institutions or ❑ $40 overseas

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____

Ballot Measure Would Earmark City Funds for Kids

by Sara Catania

They don't cast ballots, they don't have jobs, and they don't pay taxes. They are children.

As in so many poor neighborhoods, the children of the Tenderloin have become the invisible needy—the center of attention at festivals and press conferences, but ignored at budget time. A ballot initiative that has won widespread support, including the endorsement of Mayor Art Agnos, would change that.

Under the Children's Amendment, or Proposition J, the city would be required to allocate $12 million a year in property taxes to set up a Children's Fund for child care, health clinics, and library improvements. The proposition, which would amend the city charter, requires the city to use the money for new services. Existing services, the proposition states, must be maintained at the current level.

"The only way to meet the special needs of kids is to write them into the city charter so that they don't become pawns of people's political needs," said Margaret Brodkin, director of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth and one of the authors of the amendment. "Children in the Tenderloin are among the highest-risk kids in the city. They would benefit enormously from a Children's Fund."

Improved child care in the Tenderloin is one way the fund could help, said Midge Wilson, director of the Bay Area Women's Resource Center (BAWRC).

BAWRC's statistics show that 70 percent of the Tenderloin's 4,000 kids are under 10 years old, but only 282 children are served by the neighborhood's five child care centers.

"We really need services for all age groups," Wilson said. "Each group, from infants through teens, has its own particular needs."

The Children's Fund would finance child care for 1,000 additional children throughout the city.

Brodkin said the money would also be used to improve library services like expanded hours and more books. "Tenderloin kids use the main library a huge amount," she said. "It's underbooked and understaffed."

Proponents of the fund said it would also provide child abuse prevention centers, prenatal care, job training, after-school recreation, school-based health care, and other services.

Opponents of the measure say the Children's Fund will consume $12 million in property taxes that are now being used for other social services.

Brodkin defends the measure, saying "nothing else has worked." She pointed out that the children's budget proposed by Coleman for the past several years has been largely ignored.

Some advocates are ambivalent about funding children's programs at the expense of other social services like AIDS outreach and homeless programs.

"As a Tenderloin resident, I get concerned about where we will find the money for the needs of the adult population," said Kelly Cullen, director of Tenderloin Youth Advocates. "But as an advocate for children and youth, I support the Children's Fund because children are our future."

Despite these concerns, Stan Weisner, who was associate director of Coleman for eight years and is currently working on a Bay Area Youth At Risk Project, says victory for the amendment is likely.

The Amendment boasts a broad and eclectic base of supporters that includes Art Agnos, Teamsters Local 350, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, and the San Francisco Police Officers Association.

Photo: Phil Head

The children of San Francisco will be the main beneficiaries of the $12 million alloted in Proposition J, which voters of the city will be asked to consider on this November's ballot.

A recent *San Francisco Chronicle* poll showed that 71 percent of voters support the initiative.

Win or lose, Brodkin sees the Children's Amendment campaign as a big step for children.

"Kids don't have a voice in the political arena," she said. "We are beginning, with this amendment drive, to create a much broader movement."

Fire Alarms Test Residents' Nerves at 50 Golden Gate

by Tom McCarthy

Firefighters were called three times in less than a week to 50 Golden Gate Ave. as fires flared twice in the building's garbage chute and a false alarm was called out by jittery residents.

"The people who live here are probably scared," said Battalion Chief Number 3 David Frisella on the scene of the false alarm on Sept. 14. "Two calls in a week can make you nervous."

The fire department dispatched trucks and personnel to the building twice in the early morning hours of Sept. 10; first for a one-alarm call at about midnight, and then a three-alarm call at 4:26 a.m.

The second call involved almost 100 firefighters and 27 units as the fire sent the 200 tenants fleeing either to the street or to the building's rooftop. A dozen apartments were closed off because of fire damage, but the rest of the residents returned to their homes.

Both of the Sept. 10 fires started in the garbage room of the building, according to investigators, who also indicated that the building's fire alarm and one fire escape were in need of repair.

The causes of the fires in the garbage chute are still under investigation.

The false alarm at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 14 brought out five pieces of equipment and a paramedic unit with about 30 personnel involved.

"Someone probably smelled smoke in the hallway and set the alarm," said Frisella.

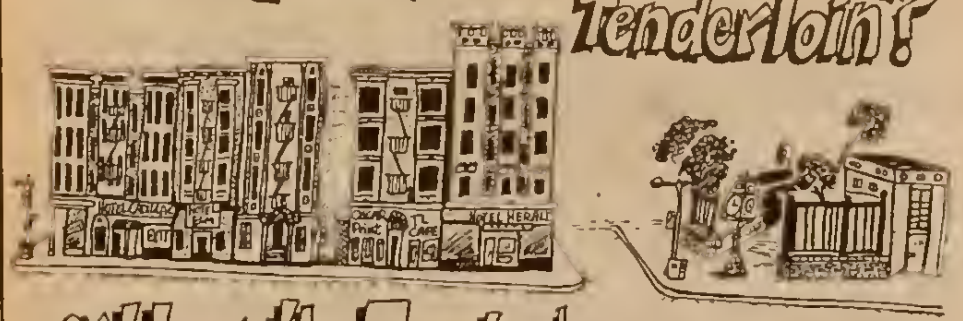
Photo: Tom McCarthy

A false alarm brought firefighters a third time to 50 Golden Gate last month.

No resident of the building came forward to explain the alarm to firefighters on the scene, however.

"I think somebody's mad and somebody's lighting stuff on fire," said a resident who didn't want to give his name, as he observed the firefighters collect their equipment. "I'd move if I could, if I had the money. Yes, I surely would move."

Has City Hall given up on the Tenderloin?



or Has the Tenderloin given up on City Hall?

Find out at the:

Tenderloin Mayoral Candidates Forum

Saturday, Oct. 5, 1-3 p.m.
Service Employees International Union Hall
250 Golden Gate Ave.

Candidates for Mayor of San Francisco will answer questions directly affecting life in the Tenderloin!

Refreshments!
Voter Registration at the Forum!
If you don't have an address to register from, addresses will be provided!
Everyone Gets To Vote!

The Tenderloin Mayoral Candidate Forum is sponsored by The North of Market Planning Coalition, The Tenderloin Times, Reality House West, Glide Church, and San Francisco Network Ministries.

You Are Cordially Invited to Attend

The Tender Champs

An Awards Ceremony and Buffet Dinner

Hosted by Reality House West Executive Director
Leroy Looper
and Featuring Guest Speaker
Le Ly Hayslip

Honoring
Four Outstanding Contributors to the Tenderloin Community:
Father Thomas Flower, Rachel Gordon,
Betty Mangual, & Janice Mirikitani

Wednesday, October 2, 1991
5:00-8:30 p.m.
The Elks Club
450 Post Street, San Francisco

Cocktails.....5:00
Buffet Dinner.....5:45
Keynote Speech & Awards Ceremony.....6:30

For ticket information call 776-0700.

Photo: Phil Head

Sylvia Martinez (left) and Marilyn Seymann (center) of the Federal Housing Finance Board and Gary Curley of Citibank. F.S.B. took a stroll through the Tenderloin last month to visit low-income housing sites, including the recently approved Tenderloin Family Housing Project.

Family Housing Gets Green Light for the Yellow Cab Site

by Tom McCarthy

The San Francisco Planning Commission unanimously approved plans last month for the Tenderloin Family Housing Project, a low-income housing project slated for the corner of Turk and Jones streets.

The 175-unit project, which will include open space and a child care center as well as street-level retail space, is being sponsored by the Chinese Community Housing Corporation in concert with A. F. Evans Company.

"The North of Market Planning Coalition and other groups had initial input on the project and child care, but they also felt strongly about having retail on the ground floor," said CCHC's Development Director Daryl Higashi. "We hope to attract the kinds of businesses that will serve the neighborhood's needs."

The project is the result of some fancy financing and a concerted effort by a variety of organizations, financial institutions, and individuals.

Citibank,Federal Savings Bank (F.S.B.) loaned $11.5 million to the project, while the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco contributed a $1.25 million Affordable Housing Program subsidy toward the final construction costs of $36.6 million.

The five-story building, which will displace a parking lot and the old Yellow Cab garage, will be made up mostly of 2- and 3-bedroom units, with a number of studios on the upper floors. The project includes a 4,180 square foot child care center, a 10,000 square foot open courtyard with an outdoor-play area, and up to 10,000 square feet of ground floor retail space. In addition, the building will provide 58 parking spaces.

The project will abut the Catholic Charities low-income housing project proposed for 111 Jones St., at the corner of Golden Gate Avenue, which will have more than 100 low-income units for seniors, families, and disabled people.

Bankers Tour the TL

On Sept. 11, the day before the Planning Commission approved the Tenderloin Family Housing Project, a group of housing and financial experts took a brief tour of low-income housing ventures being pursued in the Tenderloin.

Marilyn Seymann and William Perkins, board members of the Washington, D.C.-based Federal Housing Finance Board (FHFB), walked through the Tenderloin with Doreen Woo, director of Citibank, F.S.B.'s Business and Real Estate Banking, and Michael Freedman, director of the banks' Community Lending Program.

"This is a unique partnership between the public and private sectors to build low-income housing," Perkins said.

The FHFB disburses funds for the building of low- and medium-income housing across the nation through 12 district Federal Home Loan Banks. This year's disbursements—through the Affordable Housing Program—amounted to $429.9 million.

Other low-income projects in the Tenderloin receiving FHFB funds and Citibank loans include 35 units at 375 Eddy St. and 35 units at 525 O'Farrell St.

But one neighbor, who wanted to be known only as Joe, said the neighborhood needs more than the family housing planned for 201 Turk St.

"Oh, yeah, that's great," he said, adding that first the police should clean up the dope trafficking up the street. "Then building housing on this corner would be a capital idea, a capital idea."

A sketch of the proposed five-story apartment building that would sit on the former Yellow Cab site, 201 Turk St. Chinese Community Housing Corporation and A. F. Evans Company would jointly develop the property for family and low-income housing.

Health Care Bill Stalled

continued from page 1

piecemeal thing with overcrowded clinics, closed county hospitals, and bankruptcy among insurers. One of every three hospital beds lies empty, so hospitals are either closing or merging."

The Petris Bill would provide a host of benefits including periodic health check-ups, mental health care, long-term medical care, perinatal care, dental care, and adult and children's preventative care.

Modeled on Canadian System

The commission created by the bill would be empowered to set a benefits schedule, to establish rates for medical services provided by doctors and other care providers, and to pay for their services through a fund established through a new employer payroll tax as well as a tax on unearned income.

In addition, revenues acquired under Proposition 99, the cigaret and tobacco tax, would be added to the fund.

According to a statement issued by Petris, the new program would be "based on ability to pay, and individuals earning less than $15,700 a year would pay nothing" for the services.

"Right now the bill is on hold before the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee," said James Anderson, a spokesman for Petris. "It just passed through the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, where it passed 6-0. We expect a vote sometime in January, but in the meantime, we're getting together as much grassroots support as we can."

Some health providers welcome the bill's call for regularly scheduled physical examinations.

"Regularly scheduled appointments let us make earlier diagnoses," said Dr. Marva Wing, an obstetrician. "Earlier diagnoses mean we can save more lives. It is that simple."

With an estimated cost of $70 billion, proponents of the bill claim that by channeling funds already spent on a diversity of current programs, and by centralizing administrative bureaucracy, the new system would actually prove less costly.

In addition, say supporters, long-term care costs would subside because of the eventual payback from the new program's emphasis on preventative care and early detection of illness.

The bill would also require prepaid plan providers to accept and treat all patients, regardless of their pre-existing health status, which, according to supporters, would help curb an alarming rise in cancellations by a number of insurance companies.

"[Cancellations are] certainly an issue that we have to come to grips with," said Rene Durazzo, director of public policy at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "We need help for thousands of people without insurance. It used to be easy to brush them off as the poor and indigent, but it is becoming increasingly a problems of the middle class.

"A whole trend in the insurance industry is to screen out anyone who may be at risk for AIDS or any other potentially terminal disease," he added.

Positive Step

While Durazzo sees the Petris bill as a step in the right direction, he cautioned against embracing the bill too enthusiastically.

"I don't think people should view the Canadian model as a panacea," he said. "There have been problems, particularly with cardiovascular care. The waiting lists are so long you could die before they finally get to you.

"On the other hand," he added, "perinatal care, pediatrics, and preventative care all have extremely good track records, so there are some very good components that the U.S. should adopt."

While the Petris bill has gathered much support, opponents say it is unlikely to pass a vote of the full State Assembly.

Kenneth Dammer, a spokesman for the California Restaurant Association, argued that the imposition of a payroll tax would harm that industry.

"Many restaurants are already stretched due to the recession," he said. "We are seeing a record number of closures."

A spokesman for California Medical Association simply said, "The measure is too extreme. We think it would harm the quality of care. We're watching it very closely."

Crossings Builds Bridges to HIV-Positive People in Need

by Erik Williams

The festivities began with a quiet Native American ceremony: everyone in the room formed a circle and then reached out to the people at their sides.

Thus began the open house celebration for the Shanti Project's latest innovative program in reaching out to those with AIDS/ARC. Called "Crossings," the program is meant to address the AIDS epidemic in minority and multicultural communities.

Shanti, which means "inner peace," began in 1981 as a nonprofit organization serving people with terminal illness.

In 1982, as a result of the increasing appearance of AIDS cases among gay white males, Shanti changed its focus to serving only those with AIDS.

In 1987 Shanti expanded to help the poor and people of color with AIDS.

Photo: Phil Head

Crossings Project Coordinator Ann Reid welcomed supporters to the opening of the new Shanti Project program.

Crossings Chief Coordinator Ann Reid said, "It's a progression. The need was too great for Shanti not to have reached out to all people with AIDS."

Crossings uses a multicultural and multilingual staff to create an atmosphere for clients.

Crossings provides services at two centers in the Tenderloin and Mission districts. Besides offering emotional support to people with AIDS, Crossings also provides child care and transportation for people with medical appointments.

Crossings has no expectations of the people they serve, said Black Star, one of the program's coordinators. "They don't have to get clean for us to serve them."

'Homefront' Gathering Tackles Solutions to Homelessness

by Tom McCarthy and Julie Scheff

Culminating a conference on homelessness, 90 homeless people and activists marched to the Department of Social Services on Monday, Sept. 23, chanting, "Homeless not Helpless," the theme that reverberated throughout two days of discussions and activities.

The weekend series—"Home Front: San Francisco Speaks Out on Homelessness and Poverty"—was sponsored by the San Francisco Coalition on Homelessness (COH) and many other organizations. It included condemnations of the Mayor Agnos' so-called stopgap approach to homelessness, as well as stinging words for the other mayoral candidates' approaches, or perceived lack thereof.

"Homelessness has not been solved. In fact the situation has worsened over the last year," said COH Board President Mickey Williamson at the Monday march. "As many as 23,000 people experienced an episode of homelessness in San Francisco last year."

Photo: Phil Head
Marchers from an array of organizations gathered Sept. 23 under the Homefront banner to protest conditions in the city's welfare system at the DSS office, 1440 Harrison St.

Homeless Death Game

The weekend series opened on Saturday, Sept. 21 with an all-day conference that included discussion groups and the "Homeless Death Game"—complete with dice-throwing officials walking on stilts—as well as a comedy benefit that night.

A music rally and free food picnic was held the next day in Civic Center Plaza, which drew about 250 people at its peak, according to Anthony Von Der Muhll, COH staffer.

"We are disappointed that more people did not come down to listen to the homeless people," said Von Der Muhll of the weekend's events. "People will say homelessness is the number one problem in the city, yet they won't come down to hear homeless people talk about it."

Despite a slim turnout—peaking at 238 people on Saturday and 250 on Sunday—the events pulled together a wide array of individuals and some 30 organizations, including Swords to Plowshares, the Grey Panthers, Ecumenical Ministry of the Haight Ashbury, and All People's Congress.

Besides organization members, many homeless people themselves turned out for the Homefront events. COH's Von Der Muhll said there were 90 people at the Saturday discussion groups, of which "three quarters were homeless or near homeless."

Several practical proposals that would help homeless people in their quest for housing and employment emerged from the Saturday discussion groups, such as a phone bank and post office box center where they can receive their messages and mail reliably. Other suggestions included taxing second homes so that homeless people can have a first home and using the "millions of dollars now spent on shelters" to build affordable housing.

At Sunday's rally, singer/guitarist Lisa Palty declared from the stage that "the problems of the homeless are deeper than spare change. We need long-term solutions to gain long-term self esteem, and long-term integrity to solve the problem of so many people living on the streets."

Among the other performers on Sunday were the bands X-Tal and Five Year Plan.

A Call to Raise Benefits

But it was back to business Monday, Sept. 23, when homeless people and activists marched from City Hall to the Department of Social Services (DSS) offices at 1440 Harrison St. and 170 Otis St.

Among the marchers' demands were the elimination of DSS's Fraud Early Detection Program—also known as FRED—and the restoration of funds cut from AFDC grants, which were reduced by nine percent. They called for an increase in those grant levels by an additional 10 percent, and a doubling of the number of DSS caseworkers.

"We are at the crisis stage in the welfare system, especially in General Assistance," said COH staffer Alex Vitale. "The number of people applying for G.A. has doubled in the last year while the number of caseworkers has actually decreased."

Photo: Phil Head
Free food and music was offered among the Homefront activities on Sept. 22 under blue skies in Civic Center Plaza.

Geary and Hyde
Market
Full line of groceries
• Fresh fruit and vegetables
• Frozen foods
• Dairy products and eggs
798 Geary Street
(corner of Geary and Hyde)
775-4630
Open Mon.—Sat.
8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sundays 'til 9 p.m.

Gay Youth Make Case for Community Center

by Katie Fallon

Lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth made an emotional plea for the construction of a special recreation center during a special forum in the Board of Supervisors' chambers Sept. 10 at City Hall.

Sitting in the plush armchairs normally reserved for the supervisors themselves, a panel of youths testified before more than 100 people who "came out" to support the proposed center, which is projected to serve San Francisco's 7,000 gay youth.

"It will be a center for empowerment, political involvement, and self-defense so that members will feel strong enough to be themselves," said panel member Alfonso Diaz.

The proposed recreation center—projected to require $500,000 in startup funds—would offer rehabilitation services, literacy programs, job referrals, discussions groups, and housing services for gay youth and runaways.

In making their case, the teen panelists cited some of the special problems facing gay youth: a high suicide rate—33 percent of all youth suicides—as well as high levels of HIV infection, and alcohol and drug addiction.

The forum was organized by the Gay/Lesbian Youth Advocates, the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC), and the Delinquency Prevention Commission of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

In what Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg described as the most "intelligence and sensitivity to emanate from the [supervisors' section of the chambers]" in a long time, eight teenagers described the feelings of confusion and isolation they experienced when they came to terms with their sexuality.

Panel member Olga Texidor said she felt "terrified" when she realized she was a lesbian in the ninth grade. "It was like I was the only one," she said.

Texidor felt she could not tell anyone she was gay for fear of being rejected.

Other panelists described parents who taught them that homosexuality was "unnatural," and the subsequent emotional trauma they endured when they came out to friends and family.

Diaz, raised by traditional Mexican parents in a small farming community, decided to leave home halfway through his junior year of high school. He came to San Francisco thinking it would be the gay mecca he had heard it was.

Instead, what he found was a city that ignored and abused its adolescent homosexual population, he said. After seeing his friends prostitute themselves on Polk Street, Diaz realized he needed help so that would not happen to him. He joined LYRIC.

However, many of San Francisco's lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth are not as lucky as Diaz and Texidor in finding a supportive community. San Francisco remains one of the few major cities in the nation without specialized services for homosexual youth.

Although there are youth centers that offer HIV testing, drug therapy, and employment assistance, the panelists said many gay and lesbian youth aren't comfortable using centers that do not cater to the special needs of gay youth.

Mayor Art Agnos has pledged that funding for the proposed center will be the top priority of the Robbins Bill, which will provide the city with $26 million towards new health programs.

Supervisor Achtenberg stressed the importance of private contributions to augment governmental funds.

A formal hearing before the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for late October or early November.

Quan Yin
HEALING ARTS CENTER
THE CENTER FOR CHINESE MEDICINE
ACUPUNCTURE, HERBS & MASSAGE
Tuesday through Saturday
New clinical program for hepatitis.
On-going programs for HIV, PMS.
Please call us at (415) 861-4964.
Medi-Cal accepted for acupuncture.
1748 Market St., Suite 202
San Francisco, CA 94102

Crime Wave Hits Southeast Asian Families, Merchants

continued from page 1

derloin officers may have successfully put a damper on street crime, but not residential burglaries. "I think that crime has just moved from the streets to indoors," he said.

Ski Masks and "Raiders" Jackets

The story that 63-year-old Trosos Sok told seemed to bolster Nhok's appraisal. Sok pantomimed the dramatic gunpoint holdup of her family for Kowalski and two other police officers at the Self Help Center meeting. What she described and reenacted was how on Aug. 6 at 5:30 p.m. three young men wearing ski masks and "Raiders" jackets pushed themselves into the Eddy Street studio apartment she shares with seven other relatives.

Fortunately, Sok's niece was able to escape through the kitchen window and take the fire escape to a lower floor of the six-story building, where she called the police. By the time the authorities arrived, the robbers had fled.

"When the police came we were all shaking with fear," Sok said. "All my kids keep seeing the robbers. They are ghosts in their dreams."

The family described the suspects to police as teenagers who spoke English with Asian accents. Sok recalled that when the three fled, one of them yelled, "I will come back."

Poeun Pean, a Post Street resident for the past 10 years, was a victim of a similar crime on Aug. 16. "When I returned from grocery shopping," he said, "I found my father-in-law tied up in his wheelchair and all of my younger children crying in a room by the kitchen, where the criminals put them."

The three suspects who made away with his VCR, a TV and two gold necklaces, wore ski masks and "Raiders" jackets as well.

When the police came, Pean said, "it was too late. There was nothing they could do except take the report."

The owners of a prominent Asian market in the Tenderloin—who asked that they and their shop not be identified—told *The Times* the store was robbed four times during the last month.

Nhok suspects that Southeast Asian youth may be turning to crime as their families struggle to survive in America.

"We have seen more divorce cases in the Southeast Asian community, more broken homes," said Nhok, suggesting that youth may be turning to criminal activity because they lack proper guidance and support.

Holbrook Teter, facilitator of a Cambodian support group that meets at the Tenderloin Self Help Center, echoed Nhok's concern about Southeast Asian youth. "One of the things that Cambodian parents are concerned about is whether their kids are getting involved with gangs. What can you do about prevention?" he asked.

Kowalski responded that Tenderloin organizations such as the Central YMCA and Boeddeker Park Recreation Center provide programs such as karate, volleyball, and weight lifting to keep youth off the street.

Although many individuals at the meeting bravely testified about their experiences with crime, many families choose not to call the police after they've been victimized by a crime.

For example, only one of three ethnic Chinese-Vietnamese families whose Ellis Street apartments were burglarized in late August and early September reported the crime to the police at all.

Tom Truong, who manages the six-story building at 460 Ellis St. where these families live, described the pattern of crime in his building.

"They [burglars] come in on Saturdays and Sundays," said Truong. "They break the kitchen and bathroom windows, and then climb in."

Photo: Phil Head

With Silen Nhok (left) interpreting in Khmer, Trosos Sok (center) pantomimed for police officers how robbers held a gun to her head when they broke into her Eddy Street apartment.

"When the police came we were all shaking with fear," Sok said. "All my kids keep seeing the robbers. They are ghosts in their dreams."

Meng Chou, outreach worker at the Wu Yee Golden Gate Children's Center, said that the three families living in Truong's building think the August and September burglaries may have been committed by one of their neighbors. "No one saw them leave the building," said Chou. "The families suspect that the robbers come from the same building."

Truong confirmed that only one of his tenants had called the police. "I don't know why the others didn't call," said Truong. "I think it's a language problem. But they never get anything back so what difference does it make?"

"There are about 40 burglaries a day in the city," Kowalski noted. "If there's no evidence, such as fingerprints, and no one saw the suspect, there's nothing we can do." But he added that it is still helpful to register a crime complaint so that police can target the crime hot spots in the neighborhood.

Preying on Fellow Asians

Nhok said that in the recent wave of crime—at least among Cambodians—he sees a pattern of Asians committing crimes against Asians.

"We have a situation where Asians are robbing their own people. The Cambodians don't put money or jewelry in the bank. That's why they're attracting these criminals," said Nhok.

"People are afraid," he added. "Cambodians are buying guns." But Nhok expressed optimism that the Southeast Asian community has begun to organize to combat crime through the Planning Coalition's Southeast Asian Committee.

Few Southeast Asian Officers

In tackling crime in the Southeast Asian community, Nhok emphasized the importance of getting Asian officers onto the police force.

"As a community, we demand to have more Laotian, Cambodian, and Vietnamese officers," said Nhok.

Kowalski responded by inviting Southeast Asians to apply for the police force, letting the crowd know that the only requirements are a high school diploma and passing an entry-level exam.

"Our problem is that we'd like to have more of these folks, but they have trouble with the entry-level exam," said Kowalski. "I don't know if they can speak English sufficiently to be a police officer. We're probably one generation from getting Southeast Asians into the police department."

But he added that because the Tenderloin is home to 7,000 to 8,000 Southeast Asians, "it would be helpful to have a Southeast Asian community liaison officer in a civilian capacity." That would be one way around the entrance exam, explained Kowalski.

"I think that would be good if he considers that seriously," responded Chanthanom Ounkeo, activist with the Southeast Asian Committee. "People who are active in our committee and our community don't have high school diplomas, but it would be good if he would consider special training that would help people pass the test for the position."

The Southeast Asian Committee provides crime safety tips in Laotian, Vietnamese, and Cambodian. For information call Chanthanom Ounkeo, 474-2164, or Silen Nhok, 673-1720.

Claddagh Rings

"The perfect gift for lovers"

"Let Love and Friendship Reign"

IRISH CASTLE GIFT SHOP

537 GEARY STREET, SF, CA 94102

Telephone (415) IRISH 32 (474-7432)

Hundreds of Irish items for personal pleasure or happy gift giving !

Robberies and Drug Dealing

TL Residents Air Concerns To Police Commission

by Julie Scheff

Crack cocaine dealers and language barriers between Southeast Asians and police officers topped the list of complaints at a San Francisco Police Commission meeting at Glide Memorial Church on Sept.18.

Police Captain George Kowalski, who heads the police department's Tenderloin Task Force, noted that his officers have been successful in stemming many crimes in the neighborhood. He said anywhere from six to 15 officers regularly walk the Tenderloin beat, depending on the time of day.

But Prince Bush, a Tenderloin resident who described himself as a recovering crack addict, told the commission that despite the stepped-up police presence, he still couldn't walk a half a block in the neighborhood without someone offering to sell him cocaine.

"They ask, 'What's up? $20?' " Bush said. "You [police] say you're making all these arrests. Where are you making them—Hong Kong?"

Kowalski tried to reassure Bush and others with similar concerns.

He said the task force is targeting drug busts on the 200-block of Leavenworth Street, in U.N. Plaza, and along Jones Street between Market Street and O'Farrell Street.

After the meeting, he added that 50 percent of the Tenderloin arrests are for narcotics violations.

Bush was just one of the many who voiced concern about how crack is ravaging the neighborhood. Eric Tatum asked for a shift in efforts to curb drug sales—away from jails and police, and toward providing recovery programs.

"Jail is not going to solve the problem. What we should do is get recovery programs instead of more jails," said Tatum. "These kids don't know what a front and back yard look like, they live in such a drug-infested place."

Through a translator Tony Lee, 78, passionately spoke about the rash of crime that has hit the Lassen Apartments, 441 Ellis St., where he lives. He described how burglars have broken through windows of the 82-unit building, which houses seniors—half of whom, like Lee, speak only Chinese.

"If the police could arrive fast they could catch the suspect," said Lee. "Can there be more patrols? That would make the situation better."

Kowalski agreed that police and the Asian community need to tackle the language barrier which slows police response time.

"There's a communication breakdown because the person in dispatch can't understand. There will be a delay because of that," he said.

Many members of the public who spoke commended the division's record since the task force launched its program in the Tenderloin last April 1.

Photo: Tom McCarthy

340 Eddy St., a building inhabited primarily by Southeast Asians, has been hit by robberies recently.

At the same time, they asked for a commitment that the police presence would continue beyond the next few months, and beyond November's mayoral election.

Frank Winston of the Hotel Group of America was one of those appreciative of the new police presence. "I think you are doing an outstanding job," he said, but he also asked for stepped-up prosecution of drug dealers by the district attorney's office. Winston explained that he regularly sees drug dealers outside the U.N. Plaza Hotel at 7th and Market streets, where he keeps an office.

Kowalski reported that many types of crime have decreased since the formation of the Tenderloin Task Force and its program, Community Police Officers on Patrol.

For instance, Kowalski said robberies have declined by 23 percent and burglaries are down 36 percent as compared to the same time last year. Reported assaults in August only numbered 126, compared to 142 in the same month of 1990.

Reverend Cecil Williams of Glide Church, who hosted the Police Commission hearing, waited to speak until nearly the end of the two-hour meeting. His booming voice echoed the concerns of the speakers before him.

"It's critical to deal with the Southeast Asian community," said Williams. "We have got to get folks like the folks who are doing the complaining to respond to the problems."

Williams also stressed that the drug crisis is not just a police problem. "We need to know that folks are hurting very seriously from things that many of us can't even begin to understand," he said. "We need recovery stations at the police stations."

Photo: Doug Niven

Tenderloin residents and merchants got their say in crime issues as they testified before a special hearing of the Police Commission, which met at Glide Church's Freedom Hall.

Language Barrier Blocks Refugees' Use of 911 Lifeline

by Julie Scheff and Vandy Sivongsay

Choeum Seng, a 54-year old Cambodian resident of San Francisco, has become accustomed to not relying on anyone for protection against crime.

Seng was badly beaten up back in the early 1980s on Leavenworth Street after two men approached her and asked her to prostitute herself. She yelled back angrily in Khmer and the two men beat her so severely she was hospitalized.

Now Seng carries a knife in her pocket. The weapon came in handy last April when a man approached and asked her for money. She told him, "No money, no money."

When the man grabbed her throat, Seng managed to pull out the knife, causing the suspect to flee. As in the case of her previous attack, she never called the police for help.

Like Seng, many Southeast Asian refugees living in the Tenderloin don't know how to call the 911 emergency telephone number and fear that even if they do call, the police won't come in time.

Chhieng Tan, a health worker at Chinatown-North Beach Clinical Services, said a number of her clients don't call 911 in emergencies because they don't know what to tell the dispatcher.

"I have to teach all my clients to say what language they speak to the police dispatcher and to say 'fire, police, or ambulance,' depending on which they need," she said.

Multi-Lingual Dispatchers

Chinese-American police officer Alvin Yee underscored in both English and Chinese the importance of calling the police for help at a recent meeting sponsored by the Tenderloin Self Help Center and the North of Market Planning Coalition.

"They have dispatchers that speak your language," Yee told the crowd of about 75 Southeast Asians at the Sept. 19 meeting at the Tenderloin Self Help Center, 195 Golden Gate Ave.

Carter Douglas, watch supervisor for the San Francisco Police Department's communications department, said that the 911 dispatcher connects with the AT&T language line, which offers every language including Chinese dialects, Laotian, Khmer, and Vietnamese.

"Within two seconds you're connected," said Douglas. "Within 10 seconds, they're going to be able to ascertain whether you're having an emergency and where you are located."

Even with assurances that the police dispatcher can link up in a conference call to someone who speaks their language, many in the Southeast Asian community remain skeptical.

Khamchanh Louanphixay, 45, owner of a liquor and grocery store at 530 Ellis St., said he is frustrated with police response time.

"There were several attempted robberies in my store. Each time I call 911, the dispatcher asks me to describe the suspect, such as how tall the man is, how much he weighs, what color his shirt is, and his clothes," said Louanphixay. "I get tired of all these questions. The police come but always 30 minutes too late. I wish I could complain to the city about this."

Police Slow to Respond

Peter Khuu, owner of V.L Gift and Art Accessories on Ellis Street, agreed. "My gift store was robbed five times and when I called the police, they arrived 30 minutes later."

Commander Mike Brush of the Tenderloin Task Force said that he has heard such merchants' complaints before. But he admitted that there is not much the police can do once a suspect has fled the scene. "We can't respond to the thousands of calls we get in just a matter of minutes," said Brush.

But he added that for calls deemed emergencies the average police response in the Tenderloin is five minutes, 34 seconds. The average police response time citywide is five minutes, 59 seconds, according to Brush.

In an attempt to remedy what is widely recognized—even by the city itself in a recent audit of the 911 system—as an over-used, sometimes ineffectivel emergency system, the city is seeking to inform citizens on the proper use of 911.

According to Judith Hogan, communications supervisor of the 911 Task Force, many people misuse the 911 system, clogging the lifeline with too many calls.

Hogan, speaking before community leaders at a Senior Action Network meeting Aug. 6 helped identify when it is proper to call 911. "If somebody fell down on an escalator and broke his leg, that is an emergency," she said.

The police department's Watch Supervisor Douglas elaborated on the point. "The only time it is appropriate to use 911 is if there is a life-threatening situation occurring such as any endangerment of life or limb or personal private property."

Some of the inappropriate calls that come into 911 include calls about the sidewalk being blocked, a pay dispute with a merchant, noise complaints, general information. Sometimes people feel, rather than waiting in line on the general information number for the police department, they will "short circuit" the line and call 911. Douglas recommends for general questions, citizens should call 553-0123, the non-emergency line to police dispatch.

Graziano's Pizzeria

Formerly Juliana's Pizzeria
(under new ownership)

You have tried the rest, now try the best!

127 Eddy Street at Mason

Hours: 1:00 PM to 2:00 AM
7 days a week

929-8834

• *Free Delivery* •

Bring in ad for small pizza for $4.99—regularly $7.50

Lotto **Larkin Express** Scratchers

Full Service Deli & Catering
452 Larkin Street
between Golden Gate and Turk
(across from the Federal Building)

Since 1958

30 varieties of fresh salads: choice of four for $2.95

Redeem this coupon for a free salad with purchase of a sandwich. Offer expires November 3.

City's Math on Homeless Housing Units Doesn't Add Up

continued from page 1

the Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO)—say the city has not done enough.

The mayor's close-to-the-vest political style and penchant for bold rhetoric on the issue of homelessness have outrun his accomplishments, they claim.

Critics also complain that Agnos has run roughshod over community activists when initiating projects, failed to clear a path through city red tape to allow nonprofit builders to move their projects quickly, and spent too much time and money on emergency shelters like the city's multiservice centers, while forsaking longer-term solutions.

The city's policy does not go "beyond shelter" at all, they charge. Instead, San Francisco has only joined the national trend of providing temporary solutions to homelessness without offering an exit from the cycle of poverty and transient living accommodations.

> *" 'Beyond Shelter' is just a hodge podge of pre-existing plans and transitional programs, which are not providing permanent housing for homeless people."*
>
> *–Anthony Von der Muhll*

Yet a recent city document released at a September Health Commission meeting by Prentice and Department of Social Services General Manager Julia Lopez claims the Agnos Administration has gone a long way toward meeting its goals. They provided figures that show the city has reduced its reliance on emergency shelters while increasing transitional and permanent housing—a top objective of "Beyond Shelter."

According to this report, "Overview of Changes in the Homeless Program," the city's reliance on shelter beds has dropped from 1,830 to 1,739 over the last three years, while transitional and permanent housing has grown dramatically, from serving 2,500 homeless people in 1988 to 4,321 by the end of this fiscal year. The report also claims the city currently houses or shelters 6,060 people, a number which virtually matches the city's official estimate of the homeless population, which is 6,000.

But advocacy groups such as Homebase and the COH have long questioned the city's homeless count, since it has not adjusted the figure since 1984.

They are equally skeptical of the new housing figures, charging that the number of permanent housing units has been manipulated to serve election-time politics. They say the people who still sleep on the street and the nightly turnaways from emergency shelters are true measures that the city has not made a dent in the problem.

Between July 1, 1990 and June 30, 1991, more than 20,000 people—an average of 55 a night—were turned away from city homeless shelters, according to a survey by Independent Housing Services.

"The most eloquent indicator of the housing problem is the number of homeless people still out there," said Calvin Welch of the Council of Community Housing Organizations. "I know it's not fashionable to refer to homelessness as a housing problem—it's seen as a substance abuse problem or something else. But we have failed to convince decision-makers that homelessness is a housing issue."

A *Tenderloin Times* investigation shows that:

- of the 1,667 new permanent units claimed by the city, 1,440 are either misrepresented, not presently open, or not operating at capacity. Of those, as many as 1,000 are former hotline hotel rooms that are now part of the G.A. Modified Payments Program (GAMPP), and 440 are not yet available,
- of the 1,739 shelter beds cited in the report, 50 (Alcohol Drop-in Center) are not yet open, 150 (Interfaith Shelter Program) are only available for four months each winter, 17 (Hospitality House Youth Shelter) were counted twice, and 15 (North of Market MSC) are temporarily closed for renovations,
- at least 240 of the shelter beds require mandatory case management, which means they are not available on an immediate need basis.

"There is a serious gap between the rhetoric of 'Beyond Shelter' and the reality," said COH staffer Anthony Von der Muhll. "Some of the programs called for in 'Beyond Shelter' are up and running, some are not. But no new permanent housing has happened because of 'Beyond Shelter.' It's just a hodge podge of pre-existing plans and transitional programs, which are not providing permanent housing for homeless people."

One of the biggest accomplishments the city claims in provisions for homeless people is the dismantling of the "hotline" hotel emergency shelter system which prospered under former Mayor Dianne Feinstein, and the subsequent creation of the General Assistance Modified Payments Program.

Photo: Tom McCarthy

The newly opened Senator Hotel will both house and employ homeless people.

Dismantling of Hotline

GAMPP negotiates reduced monthly rents for General Assistance (G.A.) and SSI recipients in exchange for guaranteed rental payments to landlords, which are paid through the Tenderloin Housing Clinic.

Participants in the GAMPP system have more rights as tenants and are allowed to stay indefinitely at the hotels—although average stays are 6 months. This is a marked improvement over the days when the city ran the hotline system, providing vouchers to homeless people for three- to seven-night stays.

But critics say many residents live in the same squalor that was once the shame of the hotline program, and with 80 percent of their income from G.A. or SSI going to pay the rent, little money is left over for other expenses.

In the city's report, the reduction of 660 hotline rooms was noted as a loss of emergency shelter space, and the addition of 1,000 GAMPP rooms was defined as a gain in permanent housing.

But another city document—the Mayor's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy—does not list GAMPP as part of the city's permanent housing supply, confirming the view of some housing activists who say the rooms do not add to the available stock of permanent affordable housing.

"They are taking credit for eliminating something—hotline—which never should have been set up in the first place," said Robert Tobin, executive director of Central City Hospitality House. Tobin pointed out that many of the GAMPP beds were formerly used as emergency shelter under hotline.

"There have been constant questions over whether or not these [GAMPP] beds are 'new.' Are they new, or are they just different?" said Tobin.

Jamie Sanbonmatsu, tenant organizer for the Tenderloin Housing Clinic, (THC) which administers GAMPP, said the majority of GAMPP residents use the program temporarily before moving on to other, permanent housing.

"Modified payments has been permanent housing to a large number of people, but an even larger number have used it for transitional housing, gotten jobs, and gotten out of here," he said.

But THC Executive Director Randy Shaw said, "GAMPP definitely is permanent housing if we define that as a place that is covered by rent control, where the landlord can't make you leave as long as you continue to pay rent. Just because some don't expect to spend the rest of their life there doesn't mean it's not permanent housing. We've taken units that were previously vacant or transient and rented to permanents."

Shaw added: "The way the numbers have been used by the city, the public might think [GAMPP] is new construction. People don't like the idea of calling this new permanent housing because it implies that Agnos built it. I'm never consulted by the mayor about how they're going to use the numbers."

Another 400 of the remaining "new" units in the recent "Overview of Changes in Homeless Programs" are in Project Homeward Bound, a federal program providing Section 8 subsidized housing funds for 130 homeless families, which will not begin until November at the earliest. Although that program provides new sources of income to low-income families, it does not add any units to the city's existing supply of low-cost housing.

The Times research also discovered:

- 60 of the 198 new transitional housing units listed in the city report are in the Salvation Army's Gateway project South of Market, but to date only 12 families have made it through that program's rigorous screening process,
- among the 1,739 shelter beds claimed in the report are 50 spaces at a long-discussed drop-in center for homeless alcoholics, but the city has yet to secure a site for the center, let alone fill any beds in it.

Health Care for the Homeless' Prentice said the yet-to-be-opened drop-in center has been included in this year's budget and will be operating before the end of the fiscal year in June 1992. "We're closer than we've ever been (to getting the drop-in center)," he said.

While homeless advocates say the report's numbers are skewed, they also point to a handful of changes and successful programs indicating the Agnos Administration is attempting to fulfill its commitment to affordable housing.

Directors of the Mission Housing Development Corporation and other nonprofit housing developers say Agnos appointees Brad Paul of the Mayor's Office of Housing and Bill Rumpf of the Housing Authority show strong support of tenants' rights and low-cost housing policies.

Positive Steps Forward

Many also note the turnaround in the oft-maligned Redevelopment Agency, once notorious for razing neighborhoods and displacing residents, but now seen as more sensitive to community concerns and promoting construction of affordable housing.

Successful homeless programs created during the Agnos Administration include the Community Housing Partnership (CHP) which opened the Senator Hotel, 519 Ellis St., in August as housing for homeless people.

The CHP is also rehabilitating the San Cristina Building at Market and Taylor streets for 58 housing units and ground floor commercial space.

Other promising developments are new homeless housing units at Cambridge, Sunnyside, and Jefferson hotels.

Dave Brigode, executive director of CHP, said, "Agnos has made some mistakes, and he's not doing everything people want him to, but I remember Dianne Feinstein and her luxury developments, and Joe Alioto who bulldozed everything, and Art Agnos isn't doing either. Would Mayor Frank Jordan do what Agnos has done?"

Meanwhile Prentice—one of the architects of "Beyond Shelter"—told the Health Commission Sept. 17, "San Francisco, by itself, is not going to solve the homeless problem. Homelessness has become such a contentious issue that it's difficult to have a sober assessment of what we've accomplished.

"A lot of things have changed," Prentice said, but then added, "the magnitude of change has not met the magnitude of need."

Cambridge Hotel Becomes a Haven for Formerly Homeless

continued from page 1

you had to listen to everyone else's problems. I was becoming depressed. Cambridge is a quiet, nicely run place."

John, Carlus, and the other Cambridge residents live in single occupancy rooms with private baths and showers. Each room is furnished with a bed, dresser, nightstand, table and chairs, and small refrigerator. Residents have access to four community kitchens, a laundry facility, and a television lounge—all of which are in the building.

The Cambridge is a joint effort of the Chinese Community Housing Corporation (CCHC), which purchased and developed the site, and Central City Hospitality House (CCHH), which provides tenants with employment counseling and referrals, money management assistance, and help with daily living skills adjustment.

Before they are accepted into the program, tenants must be clean and sober for at least two months prior to moving in and be willing to seek full-time employment, said James Brady, who manages the building for CCHC.

While at the Cambridge, residents meet weekly with one of three on-site case managers, who advise them and monitor their progress. Tenants may reside at the Cambridge indefinitely, and currently there is a waiting list for the program.

"There are no requirements for coming and going," said Brady. "There is nothing different about the Cambridge than a regular apartment building except that it is part of a program."

Most of the hotel's current residents rely on General Assistance as their primary source of income. Fifteen have full-time jobs, while many work at odd jobs such as painting buildings and doing yard work while looking for more stable employment.

Others are planning to return to school. Carlus, for example, will begin a truck-driving training program in January.

Residents pay 30 percent of their income for rent and are responsible for their other expenses, including meals.

"We're trying to provide a more stable, self-dependent environment here," said Raymond Phillips, Cambridge social services coordinator.

Added Brady, "We're trying to get residents to stop going to St. Anthony's for meals and start cooking their own."

According to Case Manager Maita Szrebrodolski, the Cambridge not only provides tenants with housing but moves them a step closer to self-sufficiency—toward getting jobs, increasing their income, and building more stable relationships with their families.

"Success stories happen when people are ready mentally and financially to move from the Cambridge to their own apartment," she said.

Several Cambridge residents have college degrees. One has started a stained-glass business out of the hotel basement. Another organized a bowling league for the residents. Others are taking acting classes from a local filmmaker. Some have begun to help out in the neighborhood, sweeping streets and monitoring nearby stores and apartments to avert break-ins.

"A sense of community has really started to happen around this place in the last couple of months," said Brady.

Yet some tenants who joined the program have not been able to make the transition. Since April, six have dropped out. "Their mindset is the biggest obstacle we face," said Szrebrodolski. "Some people have been in the homeless environment for too long and they start to feel comfortable in it. They have no will to change."

Photo: Phil Head

Cambridge Manager James Brady says prospective tenants must be clean and sober for at least two months before moving in and willing to seek full-time employment.

Photo: Phil Head

Resident John Chapman checks the want ads in his room at the Cambridge Hotel.

Brady said Cambridge management gives residents as much leeway as possible as they adapt to less transient living accommodations. Because some tenants haven't paid rent in years, case managers help them manage their finances. Other residents need counseling to adjust to the stress of reporting to a job 40 hours a week.

For some the strain of these changes becomes too much and they relapse into drug or alcohol addiction, social workers said.

"We try to give tenants the support they need as long as they are taking some initiative to change," said Brady.

Cambridge management also meets monthly with residents for an "airing out session," as Brady calls it. They discuss everything from hotel policies to plumbing problems to future concert and sports outings.

The tenants' biggest complaint so far has been management's unwillingness to allow overnight guests, although tenants' children can visit on weekends.

"The rules about visitors have been too strict," said one tenant. "We need contact with our friends."

Another resident, who supports the "no overnight guests" policy, said, "I like that we can't have visitors. It gives me time to myself to think about what I'm going to do and where I'm going to go. Being at the Cambridge gives me the chance to get to know myself again."

After months of discussion about this issue, Cambridge management has agreed to allow residents overnight visitors on a restricted basis beginning this month.

"We don't want to have 180 or 200 people in the building. That's when things get out of control, when there might be drug use," Brady explained. "We want to protect the tenants and the environment we have created here."

In the future, Cambridge management hopes to bring more educational resources to the facility, including guest speakers and library materials. Staff would also like to increase the number and variety of jobs available to tenants.

Rent subsidies at the Cambridge project—which cost $3 million to acquire and rehabilitate—are provided through McKinney Act funding.

Tenderloin Housing Clinic Director Randy Shaw called the Cambridge program "a good first step" but questioned the high per-tenant cost of the project.

"If those people don't move out, [and let others access the program] that's a lot of money to spend," Shaw said. "If you have a thousand people who are hungry, you give all thousand the best possible meal. You don't send 100 people to Stars and the rest to St. Anthony's."

Case Manager Szrebrodolski, however, sees a strong potential for tenants to improve their lives at the Cambridge. "If some of the loose ends are worked out, I think it could become a real success story," he said.

"You have to go through a lot of changes to get in here," said one tenant. "If people are serious about making it back into the mainstream, the Cambridge can help."

Turn San Francisco's Housing Nightmare Into the American Dream

YES N

Home Ownership

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION N!

Sponsored by and for the renters of San Francisco

Prop N:

•Enables renters to purchase their units at 75% of market value
•Requires no more than a 10% down payment
•Provides for 90% financing
•Fully protects renters who choose not to buy
•Generates tax revenue for City services

To learn more, contact: Renters For Home Ownership
(415) 648-4494

Paid for by Renters For Home Ownership, John Eaton, Treasure, IO # 910951

Celebration at the Rose Garden Apts.

Dancer Bambi Love entertained residents of 308 Turk St., who recently celebrated their building's transformation from a rundown, crack-infested place into a clean, comfortable, and friendly apartment building. Three months after a new owner decided to begin improvements, the building's courtyard is now a place where residents can socialize, and visitors notice a sense of neighborliness not felt in many low-rent buildings.

"Three months ago this was a shell of a building," said new landlord Jeffrey Jue. "It's now a home, a place of comfort and warmth." Energetic manager Bob Brown, who facilitated the changeover of a similar building in Oakland, has cleaned out the rundown apartments, adding fresh paint and new fixtures to create clean, safe, and drug-free housing.

Resident William Patton, who has lived in many places in San Francisco, appreciates his new living situation.

"When I go to work, I don't have to worry about my stuff," Patton said. "I know it will be here when I return."

Story and photo by Doug Niven

the tender side

by Chanthanom Ounkeo
and Sasha Ruda

Cops on bikes? That's right, thanks to neighborhood hotels who bought bikes for six cruising Tenderloin police officers.

According to Keith Grier, recreation director at Boeddeker Park, everyone's asking if the officers are carrying guns while they cycle through the neighborhood. The answer is yes: just like Hopalong Cassidy, the cyclo-cops are packing heat.

Has City Hall given up on the Tenderloin? Get the answer at the Tenderloin Neighborhood Mayoral Candidates' Forum on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. at 250 Golden Gate Ave. The meeting is being sponsored by a number of groups, including Reality House West, *The Tenderloin Times*, North of Market Planning Coalition, Glide Church, and S.F. Network Ministries.

About 85 seniors from the Tenderloin went out to Stern Grove for the Salvation Army's Annual Picnic on Sept. 19, a cold and foggy day. Brrr.

"The seniors are heartier than younger people in that they're willing to brave the fog," said Vera Haile, director of North of Market Senior Services, which sent about 60 seniors.

Vera also wants to introduce a new staffer over at "The Club"—otherwise known as the Senior Sobriety Center, 291 Eddy St. Dave Robinson, the new recreation director over there, is going to keep the center safe and sober and perk it up with some new activities.

A big THANK YOU to Mary Dickey, crossing guard at Jones and Eddy streets, for her generous donation to the Cambodian and Laotian Lent celebration held at the Boeddeker Park rec center on Aug. 17. Sponsored by the North of Market Planning Coalition (NOMPC), the event attracted some 200 people who enjoyed Laotian music and Laotian and Cambodian cuisine.

On Sept. 28 NOMPC's Southeast Asian Committee helped promote the NOMPC's Town Hall meeting that focused on the blueprint for the future of the Tenderloin, the Tenderloin 2000 Project.

Mrs. Bounsouay, organizer of the Laotian Senior Buddhist Nuns, her family, owners of the Vientiane Market on Jones Street, held a Buddhist ceremony for the San Francisco Lao community on Sept. 15 at her house to honor her parents who passed away.

Sengthavuy Phonkeo, who is living with her family on O'Farrell Street, is engaged to be married to Khampeuy Monthavy, who will be moving to San Francisco from Oregon. Congratulations!

The Lao Seri Association and The Mutual Assistance Association Council cosponsored a dinner and dance Sept. 21 to raise funds for the Lao school taught by Bounmy Bouphasavanh, president of Lao Seri. Entertainment included special guest speaker Leland Yee, commissioner of the San Francisco Board of Education.

Jane Holt of the Central City YMCA passes along word that the Y's fundraiser held on Sept. 12—ya shudda been there—was a success due in no small part to a whole bunch of restaurants that donated food: Squids, Original Joe's, Cam Hung, Food For All Seasons, and Plaza Foods, as well as the Cadillac Hotel. Pianist Rico Angelo entertained the folks at the party.

"It was a really classy event," said Frank Salet, a volunteer at the YMCA Senior Center, among other places. Jane concurs.

Lydia Ely, staffer at the Coalition on Homelessness, says she and others are thrilled about the opening of the Senator Hotel, which had a ribbon cutting ceremony led by Mayor Art Agnos on Sept. 26. COH and the Community Housing Partnership have been working for the last three years to turn the former tourist hotel into permanent housing for homeless people.

"It's so gratifying to see advocacy translate into housing for people, and the people that are going to live there are happy, too. That's the important thing," said Ely.

For now, the seven-story hotel will house 44 tenants. Homeless people will help rehabilitate the building as part of an employment training program to eventually provide a total of 58 single rooms for homeless individuals and 18 one-bedroom units for homeless families.

A woman dropped by *The Tenderloin Times* office with the latest issue of *Frisko* magazine, which she found distasteful for its slight of the Tenderloin. The sidebar to its story: "The Sightseeing Beat" lists the ten commandments of tourism in San Francisco, ending with "Thou Shalt Not: Walk Through the Tenderloin."

The woman left a Post-it on the offending article with the following wise words: "I know this is a silly little magazine, but I found this quite objectionable. When I was in the hotel business, we were told to tell people they could walk this way but not that way (south of Geary). Ah! The tourists might get a touch of reality!"

The 509 Cultural Center will be sponsoring several outdoor events to take place in different locations, kicking off Saturday, Oct. 12 at Cohen Alley, off Ellis Street and between Leavenworth and Hyde streets, with "Performance in the Gutter or How Could You Stand the Smell?" which explores the impact of high-density living in San Francisco's Tenderloin

Entertainment will include dancer and choreographer Pearl Ubungen, environmental installation artist and Malaysian Tenderloin resident, Alvin Tan, poets Bill Stroud, Jerome Washington, and Jack Hirschman, and music by Robert Haven and Ubi Whittaker. The event is to begin with a ritual cleaning of the alleyway.

Goodbye to Richard Livingston, who leaves his role as administrator at Reality House West this month. Word has it that he'll be retaining his many roles at EXITheatre. We'll miss seeing him in his Eddy Street office—that front row seat to many of the comings and goings in the TL probably had a lot to do with Richard's keen analysis of the TL scene.

Hearsay is that seniors who frequent The Living Room are fuming because smoking is no longer allowed inside the neighborhood center by decree of St. Anthony's Adult Benevolent Association (ABA), which operates the seniors-and-friends drop-in center. Many of the seniors say they go there expressly to converse *and* smoke. Maybe they can buy an air filter. The ABA is also enforcing a policy that people under 60 can't use the center.

Photo: Tom McCarthy

Steamrolling Along Jones Street

A long black ribbon of asphalt was laid along Jones Street last month, from the top of Nob Hill all the way down to Market Street. Steamrollers smoothed out the asphalt for a "clean glide" all the way down the hill.

Photo: Phil Head

Wendy Thong, center, surrounded by fellow dancers as they await their cue to perform at the Lao Seri Association fundraiser last month benefitting the Lao School.

'Touch of Laos' Raises Funds for Laotian School

by Tom McCarthy

Every eye in the house—and a good number of camera lenses—focused on 7-year-old Wendy Thong as she danced a traditional Lao folk dance that she choreographed herself based on themes she learned from her studies at the Lao Language School.

Charming the audience of 100 with a smile, Wendy's hands moved delicately and intricately to tell a story of hope and memories: hope for her future in the United States, and memories of her parents' homeland. She wore a traditional costume, danced barefoot, and often glanced at her mother, seated nearby.

The setting of Wendy's performance was the first "Touch of Laos" dinner/dance held at Fort Mason on Sept. 21 as a benefit for the Lao School, where Wendy and 30 other students study Laotian language, history and culture every Saturday at the Cadillac Hotel.

The benefit was co-sponsored by the Lao Seri Association, the Asian American Psychiatric Practice, the Mutual Assistance Association Council, and members of the Asian Business League.

The Lao School is led by Bounmy Bouphasavanh, who is also president of the Lao Seri Association. Currently, most of the school's expenses are covered by Bouphasavanh himself.

> *"Lao have always placed education as one of the most important aspects of life and culture."*

"This effort to support the Lao School is also an effort to support the Lao people," said keynote speaker Dr. Leland Yee, commissioner of the San Francisco Board of Education.

Yee noted a growing sense of alienation within Lao families as the younger generation grows further removed from the language and culture of their parents.

"The schools have not done a good job in addressing these issues for our young Lao," said Yee. "That is why the Lao School is so important. It will help parent and child to speak with each other, help the young Lao retain their culture, retain their heritage, and not forget who they are. Instill that language in them, and you will not make strangers out of family members.

"There are always bigger struggles outside our community and that is why our community must be strong," Yee concluded.

Yee promised to seek out additional funding for the Lao School and to help the school find a facility better suited to a classroom setting.

Lao Seri, organized in 1985, offers counseling services, legal advice, immigrant guidance, and basic English classes. The Lao School, which opened last December, holds classes in the Cadillac Hotel ballroom on Saturdays.

"To teach the young people about their heritage and their language will give them an idea of who they are," said Bouphasavanh. "And it may just keep them off the streets and out of trouble.

"Teaching at the Lao School gives me encouragement beyond description," he added. "Lao have always placed education as one of the most important aspects of life and culture."

Make-A-Circus Makes Merry At Boeddeker Park

by Katie Fallon

Bringing home lessons in environmentalism and community building to inner city children and adults alike was one of the key messages at last month's annual Make-A-Circus Summer Festival Day at Boeddeker Park.

A crowd of about three hundred people was treated to displays of juggling, acrobatics, and other circus theatrics, and then given an opportunity to participate in the circus on Saturday, Sept. 7.

Honorary ringmaster San Francisco Supervisor Kevin Shelley started the day by presenting Community Service Awards to people who have made special contributions to the Tenderloin community: Kelly Cullen, executive director of Tenderloin Youth Advocates; Father Alfred Boeddeker, founder of St. Anthony Foundation; Janice Mirikitani, program director at Glide Church; and Jeanne Zarka Brooks, executive director of the St. Anthony Foundation.

Make-A-Circus performers then opened their 18th season with "Anancy and the Big, Big Blast," a play based on a Caribbean folktale that incorporated several community-oriented messages.

In the play, Anancy the Spider steals food from a storage fund he and his fellow animals have set aside in case of an emergency. When a hurricane hits the island where the creatures live, the disappointed "Wind Sister" gives them a second chance by virtue of the Sister Animals' good behavior.

Photo: Phil Head

Make-A-Circus stars base their wild and wacky shows on traditional circus skills.

"This story is about working as a team," said Circus Tour Manager Patricia Howard. "You can't take away from the group without putting something back into it. Luckily, [the animals] got a second chance."

Photo: Phil Head

The circus became the audience and the audience became the circus as Make-A-Circus made its annual visit to the Tenderloin last month.

After the first part of the show, Make-A-Circus performers taught audience members acrobatics, juggling, clowning, human pyramid building, and stilt-walking, so audience members could join the performers in the grand finale.

While most of those taking advantage of the workshops were under 13 years old, a few brave adults decided to join in on the stilt walking lessons, proving—as Howard said—"There's a kid in all of us."

The community performance portion of the show, a play titled "Quirky Carol" by Craig Sjogerman, focused on real estate developer Snidely Sneed, the "Ebeneezer Scrooge of Ecology," and his vision of "Snidely Acres," the ultimate shopping mall.

Snidely's capitalist dream is soon replaced by another dream a la Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," where Snidely is visited by the ghosts of Endangered Species Past, Present, and Future.

Children from the audience age 5 and under played the Jam-Toed Quirk Birds, whose habitat would be destroyed by Sneed's dream mall. The Jam-Toed Quirk Birds were led by their ancestor, the extinct Do-Do Bird, who is also the Endangered Species Past.

"This play told us how if we let all the animals die, we can die too."

–Lay Kim, 11

Newly-trained acrobats from the audience portrayed Endangered Species Present, which included otters, foxes, and elephants.

Sneed's most poignant lesson is delivered courtesy of the stilt walkers, who played giant mutated cockroaches, the sole surviving creatures in a world overrun with shopping malls and trash, and where human beings are the Endangered Species of the Future.

While participating in "Quirky Carol" was the highlight of the day for many of the young circus stars, the message it conveyed was not lost on them.

"This play told us how if we let all the animals die, we can die too," said Lay Kim, 11.

"It was teaching that there are things more important than shopping, like saving endangered species and recycling," said Lisa Paniagua.

Make-A-Circus began performing in 1970 on the streets of London, England, and now travels all over California performing free shows in disenfranchised communities.

"The Tenderloin show is the greatest demonstration of Make-A-Circus," said the circus' Managing Director Alana Gentry. "It's truly a community event for kids who don't often get to see live performances."

Future plans include a sign-language performance for the hearing impaired as well as multilingual shows.

Although Make-A-Circus directly appeals to children, adults in the audience were also entertained.

"I'm having more fun that the kids," said Faizon Jones. Much of the humor in the show was adult-oriented, including references to former-President Richard Nixon, football player Bubba Paris, and television star Desi Arnaz.

Through government and private funding, Make-A-Circus also provides Clown Therapy, a rehabilitation program for disabled people as well as a Teen Apprenticeship program which offers circus skills classes and job experience for teenagers in at-risk groups.

City Seniors Enjoy Tropical Treats at Luau

by Marc Sopher

This past summer may have been an unusually chilly one for the city, but on Sept. 8 the atmosphere inside the San Francisco Senior Center, 481 O'Farrell St., was positively tropical.

Nearly 100 local seniors celebrated at the Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly Hawaiian Luau, complete with a luncheon feast, music direct from the islands, and a fresh flower lei around the neck of every guest.

Little Brothers, which was founded in France in 1946 to help seniors cope with the devastating effects of World War II, has been serving San Francisco since 1990. This month the local chapter will receive its official charter from the national organization. The exotic luau served as a celebration to mark the group's new status, and also to bring seniors into a social, fun environment.

"This is great," said Henry Crebs, 68, a retired businessman, who, like a number of other guests, was enjoying his first Little Brothers event. "It fills a need where the government is not involved," he added.

Photo: Phil Head

Seniors and volunteers from Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly enjoy a celebratory luau heralding the opening of the organization's San Francisco chapter.

The non-profit, non-sectarian Little Brothers now has chapters in seven different countries, with seven offices in the United States alone; two in Chicago, and one each in Minneapolis, Boston, Michigan, Philadelphia, and now San Francisco.

According to a survey completed by the Little Brothers, San Francisco and Philadelphia have twice the national average of senior residents for cities of their size, so it seemed an appropriate city in which to launch a new local voluntary organization, said Miriam Rabinovitz, the San Francisco site director.

Rabinovitz explained that the group's goal is to alleviate loneliness among seniors.

"Our motto, 'Flowers before Bread,' describes our philosophy that certain small pleasures possess special qualities that give life meaning," she said. "For example, at Christmas time we give flowers and champagne, and this Halloween we are planning to visit our elderly with 'trick or treat' packages."

Little Brothers volunteers—most of whom are in their 20s—help seniors with practical chores like shopping as well as make social calls to seniors in their homes.

Sebastian Duflot, a 23-year-old volunteer from Lilles, France, who will be in the United States for two months, had several reasons for joining Little Brothers. "I had the wish to see elderly people because I knew they were so lonesome," he said, "and also because I no longer have grandparents." Duflot read of Little Brothers in a French newspaper, and volunteered.

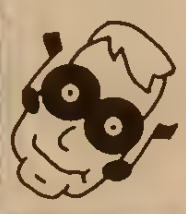
Little Brothers is well known in France, much like the Red Cross is well known in the United States.

Little Brothers does not accept government funding, which allows the organization flexibility in its programming. The annual budget for the local chapter is $70,000, of which $45,000 was provided by the Little Brothers' national office.

Rabinowitz hopes to raise the remainder of the funds through donations from foundations and corporations.

She is also trying to gain public exposure for the group. The process will not be easy, she admits, because "aging is not as trendy as some other issues, like the environment."

BAY AREA RECORDS & TAPES



* We pay top prices for your CD's, cassettes and videos!
* We buy, sell or trade!
* Over 5,000 videos for rent or for sale!

430 Geary Street
(between Mason and Taylor)
Telephone: 441-1947

1444 Polk Street
(near California Cable Car Line)
Telephone: 441-0777

42 Years Serving the TL's Poor

Father Boeddeker Takes a Look Back

by Eric Savlin

Sitting in his modest office, wearing a brown frock tied with a white cord, the Franciscan friar makes it all sound simple.

You see people are hungry, so you build a dining room. You see people need medical care, so you build a clinic. You see there's a need for other services, so you create an employment program, residences, a drug and alcohol rehabillitation farm, a shelter . . .

If only we could all be as no-nonsense as Father Alfred Boeddeker. On Sept. 1, the founder of the St. Anthony Foundation and the man for whom Boeddeker Park is named, celebrated 70 very active years as a Franciscan. Born in 1903 in his family's home on 13th Street near Folsom Street, Boeddeker, 88, has been a part of the Tenderloin for most of his life.

"I come from a very Christian family," he said. "My parents were wonderful that way. We lived a beautiful, normal life, but at the same time, they instilled in us Christian ideals. We lived with people and for people in all that we did, and yet we weren't distant from God. We kept a good balance; we were a very happy family."

As a child, Boeddeker remembers seeing Franciscan friars passing near his house going to mass at a nearby convent. "I would go with them at different times," he said. "They were right next door. After a while, I entered into the order. They had ideals, a mode of life that I kind of liked."

Photo: Greg Gaar

Father Boeddeker opening the Festival of Lights in Boeddeker Park, December 1985.

Photo: Tom McCarthy

Father Boeddeker in his office at the Marian Center, St. Boniface Church rectory.

Boeddeker was inspired to join the Franciscan order by the character of Saint Francis, who saw the spiritual within the world.

"There was something about Francis," Boeddeker said. "He was kind of a romantic character. He was a friend of the flowers, of the animals; he could see Christ in everything, in every person . . . " From Francis and the Franciscans, Boeddeker said he learned to "mix generously the things of the spirit with the things of human life."

> *"[Francis] was a kind of romantic character. He was a friend of the flowers, of the animals; he could see Christ in everything, in every person."*
>
> *–Fr. Boeddeker*

Boeddeker's many activities and projects throughout the years are a testament to this mixing. He was ordained a priest in the Order of Friars Minor in 1927 at the age of 24, and was assigned a little church near Santa Barbara. He studied the canon law and theology in Rome in the early '30s, and then taught at the Franciscan seminary in Santa Barbara from 1933 until 1948, when he was chosen to establish a Catholic university in China. He was studying languages and history at U.C. Berkeley in preparation when his plans were cut short by the victory of the Communist forces during the Chinese Cultural Revolution.

In 1949, Boeddeker was named pastor of St. Boniface Church in the Tenderloin, the church in which his parents were married and most of his seven brothers baptized.

A year later, Boeddeker opened St. Anthony's Dining Room. "I was impressed with the needs in this area," he said. "There were many people coming to our front door. I would give about 25 tickets to eat at the Golden Eagle Restaurant, and then I would pay the bill at the end of the month. I thought, 'I'm not doing much for them.'"

Father Boeddeker congratulates a youngster graduating from the YMCA Tenderloin child care center in 1984.

After assessing the space next door—formerly a machine shop—and deciding against turning it into a parking lot (not enough room for cars to turn), Boeddeker decided on a dining room.

"I thought, 'This could be so interesting. People could sit down, we could have formica-top tables, tile floors, and it could be really good; I'll not call it a soup kitchen, I'll call it a dining room. . . .' We needed a name, so I picked St. Anthony's; he's a good provider; I'll be under him."

On Oct. 4, 1950, the feast day of St. Francis, the dining room opened. "We thought there would be about 35 people coming," Boeddeker said. "Actually there were 350, and that was just the opening day. After that I had to expand everything that I was doing."

Expansion didn't mean losing the personal touch, though. Boeddeker solicited food himself and became friends with farmers who would donate. To this day, the St. Anthony Foundation accepts neither government money nor money from the Catholic Church. Boeddeker didn't want to get involved with government funding because of the bureaucracy, according to Sister Sheila, a social worker at St. Anthony Foundation.

"He had the idea people would support the place. He was very good about thank you letters," she said. "It built a lot of good will."

Father Boeddeker greets diners at St. Anthony's Dining Room in 1978.

Boeddeker would go down to the dining room every day, according to Sister Ursula, also of St. Anthony Foundation, to meet and talk with people. "He didn't want any questions asked or any preaching," she said. "He wanted people to be comfortable there, to feel at home. His warmth was extraordinary."

Boeddeker retired in 1980, but still goes to his office in the Marian Center next to St. Boniface Church. He's excited about the year 2000.

"I think we ought to celebrate this tremendous day for Christianity—the 2000th anniversary of His coming upon this earth," Boeddeker said. To this end, he's created a rosary of 33 beads, which he calls the sacred heart rosary. "All it is is a little prayer that says, 'Sacred Heart, I trust in your love.'

"On his anniversary I want to feed all the poor," he added, "and eliminate hunger after that. To do that I've joined the Hunger Project, a world-wide group of 5,000."

Boeddeker says he has gotten a lot back during his lifetime of service. "I've learned how to evaluate life," he said. "I've learned from the poor how to suffer. One can't complain when things aren't going as you want. I've learned to be patient."

February 1985: Father Boeddeker surveys the site of the park that today bears his name; a bowling alley occupied the site previously.

Tenderloin Dining Guide

AMERICAN/DINERS

1. Dottie's True Blue Cafe - 522 Jones St. This all-American coffee house makes all its dishes from scratch and fresh to order, including strawberry pancakes, yogurt, juices, coffee, and soup. Lunch specials offer pizzas, pastas, and more. A senior discount menu is available from 9:30-11 a.m. Price range: $1.25-$8. Open 7 days, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Breakfast served till closing. Lunches served 11:30-2 p.m., Sats. and Suns. breakfast only from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. 885-2767.

CAMBODIAN

2. Phnom Penh - 631 Larkin St. The top vote-getter in a *Tenderloin Times* favorite restaurant contest. Specialties include boneless chicken stir fried with five spices and sweet basil leaves, shredded green papaya, diced cooked sirloin pork, and prawns tossed with lemon dressing. Beer and wine available. Price range: $3.95-$8.95. Open Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. for lunch, Mon.-Wed., 5-9:30 and Thurs.-Sun., 5-10 p.m. 775-5979.

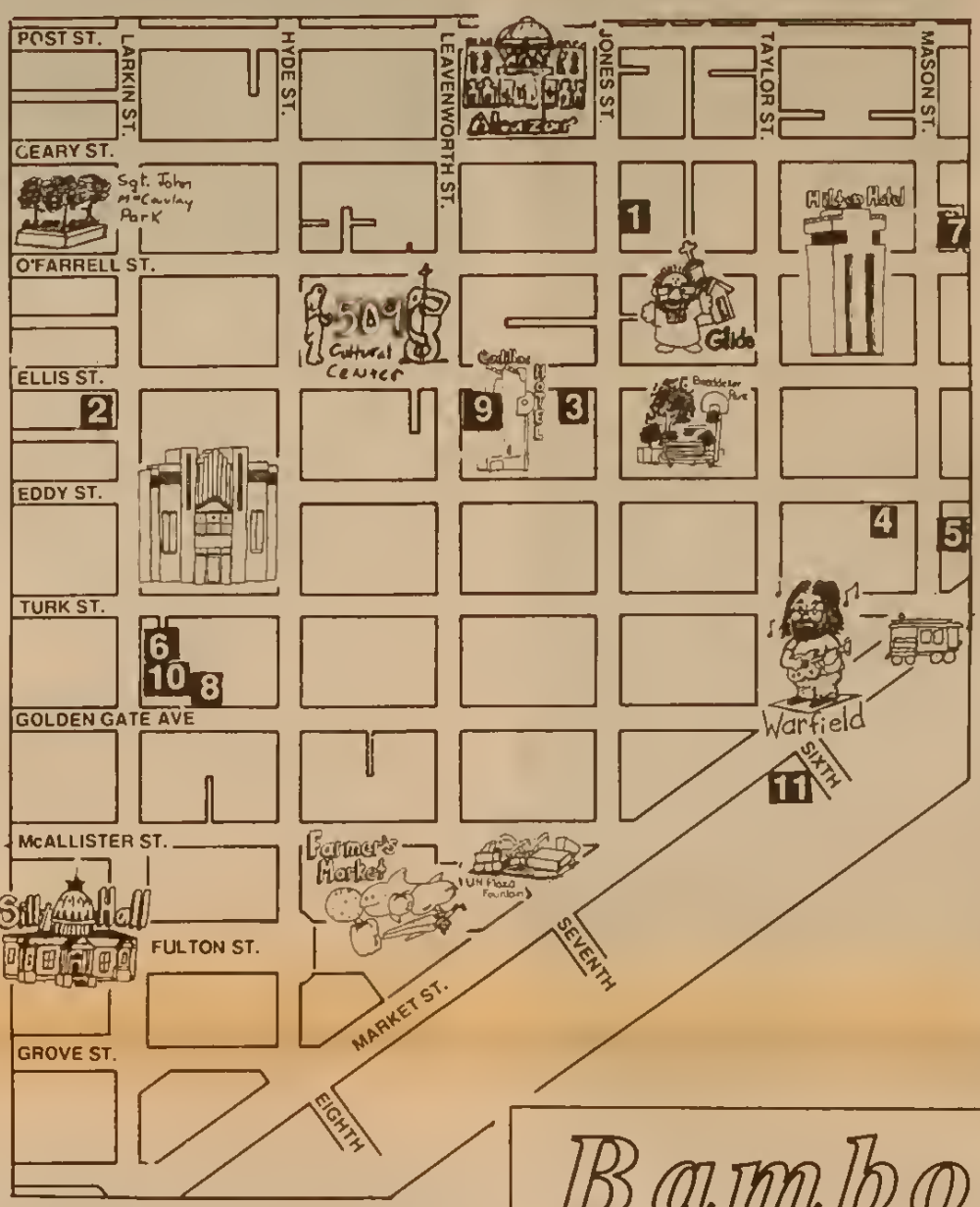
ITALIAN

3. Bamboo Pizza - 407 Ellis St. Small, large, and extra large pizzas. Sixteen different pizza toppings with special bend of sauces and 100 percent real cheese. Also, pasta, hot sandwiches, and salads. Serves a breakfast special (8 a.m.-12 p.m.), two eggs, hashbrowns and toast, only $1.85. Price range: $.99-$13.75. Open 7 days, 8 a.m.-11 p.m. 292-5861.

4. Grazlano's Pizzeria - 127 Eddy St. Best pizza in town with an assortment of sandwiches, lasagnas, spaghettis, calzones, and vegetarian dishes. Lasagna and spaghetti specials come with garlic bread and salad for $3.95. Pizza by the slice and pie. Price range: $1.25 and up. Free delivery. Open 7 days a week, 1 p.m.-2 a.m. 929-8834.

MIDDLE EASTERN

6. Larkin Express Deli - 452 Larkin St. (across from federal building). The Express specializes in Middle Eastern food with delights like falafels and tabouli—all homemade. Lunch specials go for $2.99. Open Mon.-Sat. 474-8777.



5. Polo's Stadium Club - 34 Mason St. Italian-American food served in a sports club atmosphere with thirteen 27" television sets and a 10-foot screen. Serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner, including specials such as stuffed pork chops and short ribs. Senior discounts offered. Price range: $6.50-$12.50. Open 7 days, 6 a.m.-2 a.m. 362-7719.

** All restaurant listings are paid advertisements*

Call 776-0700 to get your restaurant listed in the Tenderloin Dining Directory

MEXICAN

7. Carlos Goldstein's - 280 O'Farrell St. Serves fine Mexican food including carne asada and fajitas, as well as seafood and a weekend champagne brunch. Full bar service available. Price range: $4.95-$11.95. Open 7 days, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. for dinner; bar is open until 2 a.m. 397-3356.

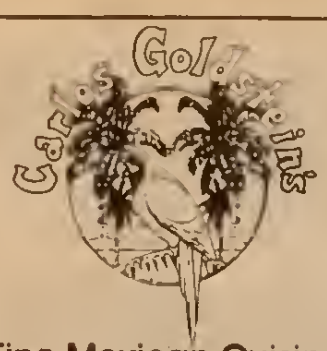
8. Carlos Goldstein's Tijuana Taqueria - 370 Golden Gate Ave. This fast food establishment serves the best nachos in town in addition to such standard South-of-the-Border fare as burritos and tacos. Daily lunch specials include entree, salad, beans, and rice for $5.25. Price range: $2.95-$6.25. Open Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 474-4294.

VIETNAMESE

9. Duc Ky Restaurant - 491 Ellis St. A top vote-getter in the 1989 Times restaurant contest. Items include catfish hot & sour soup, seafood tire pot, and barbecued pork over rice. Price range: $3-$4.75. Open 7 days, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 928-5188.

10. The Pink Flamingo - 448 Larkin St. Vietnamese food for a wide range of palates from mild to spicy. Specialties include red snapper in black bean, ginger sauce, chicken in coconut curry, crispy sweet and sour flounder, and the best beef kebobs and imperial rolls in town. Vegeterian dishes served, too. Lunch and dinner from $2.95-$6.50. Lunches include soup, tea, and fortune cookie. Open Mon.-Sat., 10 am.-9 p.m. 885-0965.

11. Tu Lan - 8 Sixth St. A Vietnamese restaurant featuring imperial rolls, pork shish kebabs with rice noodles, and rice dishes such as ginger chicken, pineapple with beef, and other dishes. Price range: $3.45-$5.45. Open 6 days, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Sun. 626-0927.



Fine Mexican Cuisine
Fun Bar

282 O'Farrell
397-3356
Champagne Brunch
Weekends

370 Golden Gate
474-4294
The City's Finest Taqueria

Bamboo Pizza

PLUS:
Pasta Dishes
Hot Sandwiches
Breakfast
Salads

99 cent SLICES !

$1.49 COMBO SLICES ! (8 toppings)

TRY OUR SPECIALS !

SUPREME
Mushroom, Pepporoni, Salami, Sausage
Small $8.95, Medium $10.15, Large $11.85, Extra Large $12.95

VEGETARIAN
Mushroom, Bell Pepper, Olives, Tomatoes
Small $8.95, Medium $10.15, Large $11.85, Extra Large $12.95

HAWAIIAN SPECIAL
Canadian Bacon & Pineapple
Small $7.35, Medium $8.35, Large $9.85, Extra Large $10.95.

BAMBOO COMBINATION
Pepperoni, Salami, Mushroom, Sausage, Bell Pepper, Onion
Small $10.50, Medium $11.25, Large $13.00, Extra Large $13.75

AVAILABLE TOPPINGS

Pepperoni, Pork Sausage, Ham, Green Peppers, Bacon Bits, Black Olives, Mushrooms, Italian Sausage, Canadian Bacon, Fresh Tomatoes, Onions, Pineapple, Anchovies, Shrimp, Crab Meat, Salami.

FREE DELIVERY
292-5861
(within our service area)

407 ELLIS STREET
SAN FRANCISCO
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK !

Kopens Ice Cream

- Sundaes
- Malts
- Banana Splits
- Cones
- Root Beer Floats
- Shakes

We make our own ice cream daily!
455 Ellis Street between Jones and Leavenworth
Open everyday

Muralists Convert TL's Concrete Walls to Canvases

by Anne Hurley

The paint was barely dry on the rainforest mural on the Mitchell Brothers' O'Farrell Theater at Polk and O'Farrell streets when painter Lou Silva received his first reaction from the public.

"This man approached me and he said, 'Man, this is great. I just got out of jail and this is one of the first things I've seen. This is great,'" Silva recounted.

A half-dozen murals grace the Tenderloin's buildings, transforming the urban landscape and reflecting the neighborhood's cultural diversity. Several more are planned for the Tenderloin by the 509 Cultural Center.

The O'Farrell Theater may be an "adult theater," but its outside walls would do the Sierra Club proud. The original mural, painted in 1977 by Silva, was a playful aquatic scene with porpoises, whales, and mermaids. The Mitchell brothers commissioned that mural from Silva after seeing his work on an East Bay underpass.

Two years ago the theater building underwent structural repairs and the original mural was sandblasted away. Now, the aquatic scene on the Polk Street side of the theater has been replaced by another Silva original depicting the rainforests of Africa, Southeast Asia, Austral-Asia, and the Amazon. An aquatic scene remains on the back side of the building.

Strong Roots, Healthy Tree

While Silva's murals are paens to nature, "Strong Roots, Healthy Tree," on the wall adjacent to the back of the O'Farrell Theater on Olive Street between Polk and Larkin streets, is a tribute to the neighborhood's Southeast Asian immigrants. Painted in 1988 by Johanna Poethig, this mural covers the entire back wall of the Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement.

Done in a bold, figurative style, the mural incorporates Southeast Asian symbols and motifs to represent the three major groups of Southeast Asian refugees: Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians.

At the top of the mural are three women in traditional dress, who represent the three countries. The Vietnamese woman holds a basket containing 100 eggs. She is Au Co, descendant of a fairy and wife of King Lac Long Quan, who gave birth to 100 eggs, which hatched 100 sons.

According to Vietnamese legend, 50 of these sons founded the various tribes in Vietnam and descendants of the other 50 sons became the Vietnamese people of today.

Other legendary figures and landmarks dot the scene, such as the one-column pagoda at Hanoi—symbol of a unified and independent Vietnam—and temples from Cambodia and Laos. At the foreground are portraits of Southeast Asian children living in the Tenderloin, to whom the mural is dedicated.

Boeddeker Dogs & Dragon

Poethig worked with neighborhood children to design and paint two indoor murals at the Boeddeker Park Recreation Center.

"Flying Dogs Breathing Fire" was designed by a young Cambodian boy, Chhoeut Sun, who was 10 years old at the time. In the mural, four large, polka-dotted fire-breathing, winged dogs fly against a painted sky.

On the opposite wall is a large fire-breathing dragon with a snake at its tail and a monkey on its back. Birds fly up the wall just ahead of the dragon's fiery breath.

Photo: Lance Woodruff

A bright and colorful mural taking imagery from Southeast Asian cultures adorns the south wall of the Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement on Olive Street.

Both murals are done in ceramic tiles, which the children painted at afternoon art classes at the center.

Political themes prevail a few blocks away on the Leavenworth Street wall of the offices of the Restaurant and Hotel Workers Union, Local 2, which hosts a colorful mural entitled "Reflections of Culinary Workers' Struggle."

Union members and artists Ted Abraham, Kim Anno, and Marion Kendrick painted a snap shot of the events of 1986, when the union prevailed against San Francisco restaurants, getting them to conform to the same standard of wages and benefits set by the big hotels.

In bright blues, reds, and greens, the mural depicts some of the important events of that year, such as workers walking the picket line and staging sit-ins in hotel lobbies.

An Architectural Phoenix

One of the more unusual murals in the neighborhood is a splendid *trompe l'oeil* (French for "deceives the eye") at the corner of Hyde and Turk streets.

Painted in 1983 by San Francisco artist John Wullbrandt and East Bay artist John Wherle, the mural depicts a building of the classical Greek style with fluted white columns. At the bottom is exposed bare brick that Wullbrand—who calls the mural an "architectural phoenix"—said represents the rubble of the 1906 earthquake and fire.

Photo: Phil Head

Detail from Lou Silva's jungle mural painted on the east wall of the Mitchell Brothers O'Farrell Theater, Polk and O'Farrell streets; a marine scene complete with whales and dolphins by Silva is on the south wall of the theater.

This is one of the first architectural *trompe l'oeil* in San Francisco, and although it is unusual and its message is subtle, it's beauty is not lost on people who live and work here.

"It looks nice. I like it," said Rufus Gloster, a street vendor who sells used clothing and household items on the corner of Turk and Hyde streets.

"It reminds me of the Roman arena," said Rashea Onez, who lives across the street from the mural. "It's like looking back in history. It's better than looking at those plain bricks," he said pointing to a decrepit building nearby.

Alley Art

The 509 Cultural Center is hoping to bring more murals to the Tenderloin by acting as a fiscal sponsor for muralists applying for beautification funds from the city's Chief Administrative Office.

This fall, work will begin on the painting of a mural on the west wall of the Arlington Hotel along Leavenworth street between Ellis and O'Farrell streets, an excellent location for a mural, according to 509 Curator Darryl Smith.

"There are six residential buildings facing that wall of the Arlington from across the street," Smith said. "That's a lot of people who will be able to enjoy the mural."

The Arlington Hotel approves of the idea, according to Smith, who said Johanna Poethig will lead a series of artists' workshops at the 509 to come up with the design.

The design would then have to be approved by the San Francisco Arts Commission, and Smith indicated the Arlington management also wants to have a look at the plans.

Another mural the 509 envisions for the neighborhood would be on the east wall of the Senator Hotel on Cohen Alley just off Ellis Street and adjacent to the 509 center itself.

"Eventually, we would like to close the alley to traffic and make it into a space where people can open their windows onto an open space for gardens, murals, even some one-day performances; something open and counter to the high density urban environment," said Smith.

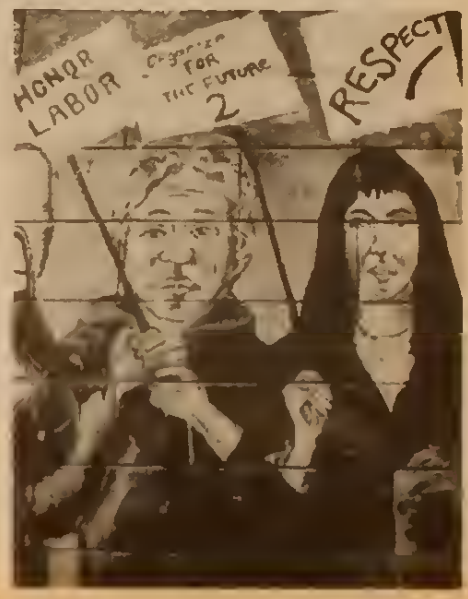


Photo: Phil Head

The mural on the west wall of Local 2's offices on Leavenworth Street depicts the union's struggle for better wages and benefits in San Francisco's hotels during 1986.

"We would like to use Cohen Alley as an example of what can be done with these alleys all over the Tenderloin—make them spaces for people to use," he added.

An example of the kind of performance art that Smith and the 509 envision for alleys of the Tenderloin will take place Oct. 12 with "Performance in the Gutter, or How Could You Stand the Smell?" when a habitat-like installation will be constructed in Cohen Alley by Malaysian installation/environment artist Alvin Tan.

The structure will be used as a backdrop for dancer/choreographer Pearl Unbungen, for poets Jack Hirschman, Jerome Washington, and Bill Stroud, and for musician Robert Haven and other special guests.

–Tom McCarthy contributed to this report.

UNION MUSIC CO.
• Musical Instruments •
•Sales • Rentals • Repairs• Lessons
Open: 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Tues.-Sat.
34 Golden Gate Ave.
S.F. CA 94102
(415) 775-6043

INCORPORATE INSTANTLY!
Over 85,000 companies have incorporated with us quickly and inexpensively, without a lawyer.
Call for free information:
The Company Corporation
1-800-542-2677 ext. 553

INDIA GIFTS & FOODS
907 Post St.
771-5041
Specializing in foods from India
Spices • Pickles • Dalls • Papads
Lunch Combinations:
$3.99: Chicken curry, 2 vegetable curries, dall & rice.
$2.99: Two vegetable curries, dall & rice.
Store Hours:
11 a.m.- 7 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Sunday
Closed Wednesday

EXITheatre's 'Spider': Story of a Angry Boxer's Backslide

by Dan Field

Those expecting an upbeat drama about a small-time boxer who defies the odds, gets the girl, and becomes the darling of a nation should stay far away from EXITheatre's 1991-1992 season opener "Spider and the Cleveland Valentine." They would be better off renting one of the latest "Rocky" installments currently collecting dust at the local video store.

Those, however, who are tired of such bloated Hollywood fantasies should run—not walk—to the neighborhood theater at 366 Eddy St. in the heart of the Tenderloin. While Bobby Ace Diamond's new play may lack the flash of Sly Stallone's various money-making vehicles, it more than makes up for it with gritty, hard-hitting realism.

Playwright Diamond, himself a former professional boxer, plays veteran fighter Spider Novak. The play opens with a particularly unflattering, all-too-familiar scenario from Spider's life: he has just lost a match, his forehead is bleeding, and he is in a foul mood.

His bitterness stems not so much from the defeat, but more from a feeling of helplessness he has developed through the years of busting his ass in the ring only to see the monetary result of his efforts go into the pocket of some greedy promoter. Spider holds onto this anger as if it were his protective shield.

This is fine when he taps into the emotion while fighting a determined young boxer; it is not so good, however, when he brings it to all of his interpersonal relationships.

Those who care deeply for Spider—such as his good friend and trainer Al the Greek (nicely played by Dutch Korman)—find it nearly impossible to spend a large amount of time with Spider without him blowing up.

As a result, Spider ostracizes those who care about him, and thus finds himself spending his time alone, either in a dingy hotel room or on the red-eye express to his next match.

Playwright Bobby Ace Diamond stars in his own "Spider and the Cleveland Valentine."

Diamond is so convincing as the down-and-out boxer that his presence alone gives the play a documentary-like feel. As Spider recalls the glory days of his past—the big wins, the "fine" women—we never feel this is an actor reciting lines.

Diamond receives strong support from the play's other actors, most notably from Keith Douglas as the cocky boxer Valentine Stewart.

Like Spider, Valentine is driven by an anger which makes boxing a perfectly natural outlet for him. His anger, however, stems from a different source than Novak's—mainly from growing up an impoverished black man in a racist, capitalist society.

If there is any fault with Diamond's play, it is in his handling of the relationship between Spider and his ex-girlfriend, Joanie. Daniella Ryan does what she can with her thankless role, but because it is underwritten, her performance comes off as forced.

Diamond is much better at reflecting the brutal realities of the sport than conveying how ex-lovers talk. Fortunately, there is only a single scene between the ill-fated lovers, and it is over relatively quickly.

Ryan does appear later in a dream sequence—the play's funniest part—where she displays fine comic timing.

Jack Halton directs with a sure hand, keeping the action simple and unaffected. He seems to realize that Diamond's writing is so powerful that to clutter it with complicated staging, unnecessary lighting, or sound tricks would only lessen its emotional impact.

No frills here, no happy endings, no "Rocky" fantasies. "Spider and the Cleveland Valentine" shows the boxing game as it really is. The Italian Stallion never had it so good.

"Spider" plays EXITheatre, 366 Eddy St., through Oct. 5. Call 673-3847 for info.

SARAH B. PATTERSON
ATTORNEY ▪ AT ▪ LAW

Practice limited to
SSI and Social Security Disability Claims
- Ten years' experience in SSI cases
- No fee for consultation
- No fee unless you win

Fifth Floor
44 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94104
Telephone
(415) 955 ■ 2656

the Art Store
Low Discount Prices!
Complete Selection of Artist Materials
• Fine Art
Graphic Supplies • Furniture
San Francisco
812 Mission
at Fourth St.
777-ARTS
FAX 777-1877
Oakland
5301 Broadway
at College
658-ARTS
FAX 658-8409
Open 7 Days A Week
Mon. thru Fri. 9 to 7, Sat. 9:30-5:30, Sun. 11-4

VCR
T.V.
REPAIR
Free Estimate
673-1356
ERNIE'S T.V. SERVICE
503 Jones St. (at O'Farrell)
San Francisco, CA 94102

Grand Opening!
Pho 54
Restaurant
has come to San Francisco!
730 Larkin Street, S.F., CA 94104
Tel: (415) 928-8989
☆ Well known for its delicious food in San Diego, Santa Ana, and San Jose, Pho 54 has come to serve you here in San Francisco.
☆ Our excellent chef is famous for his Vietnamese-style noodle soup. Rice dishes are also served.
Open 7 days from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

ร้านเฟ 54
ได้มาเปิดแล้วที่แซนแฟรนซิสโก!
☆ อาหารแซบนิวมีชื่อสงโดงดังยู่แซนดิเอโก, แซนตาแอนนา และแซนโยเซ, บัดนี้ร้านเฟ ๕๔ มาเปิดเสิบท่านที่แซนแฟรนนี่แล้ว
☆ ผ้ถิวเก้งสุดของงพวกเรามีชื่สงงย้อนเฟืองดนาม. กับเข้าใส่จานต้นงๆก้มี.
เปิด ๗ มื้ต่อาทิด แต่ ๘ ม. เจ๊า ทา ๙ ม. แลง

យើងបានចូលខ្លួនមកបំរើលោកអ្នកនាងនៅក្នុង
ទីក្រុងសាន់ហ្រ្វាន់ស៊ីស្កូហើយ
អាស័យដ្ឋានជួចមានតេនៅខាងលិ
☆ នៅក្នុងទីក្រុងសាន់ឌីអេហ្គូ, សាន់តាអាណា និងសាន់ហូហ្សេ យើងមានឈ្មោះល្បីល្បាញ
☆ ចុងភៅដ៏ចំណានរបស់យើង ធ្លាប់មានឈ្មោះ
ម៉ោ ១ ១ ១

POETRY & PROSE

Higher Authorities

I saw a dead man on the street
He lay beneath a yellow rubber sheet
the feet at ten o'clock
One shoe at twelve
the other cocked at ten
with a lonely sock

Well he died with his "boot" on
a wag might say
No one told a joke that day
but the crowd that gathered
laughed anyway

And I thought this mirth strange
A pool of blood was spread
a little lake pillow shining red
that ringed the yellow slicker
which lay upon his head
Strangers chuckling at the violently dead
I thought that laughter strange

Well I watched the rescue men, bored yet possessive
of their find, leaning on their rescue machine
drinking coffee from styrofoam cups
Waiting on a higher authority
The living cannot rescue the dead

Death, that jealous lover, loves us all—
equally
More than you or I can ever know
and Death will always keep hard by you
when everyone that you have ever loved has
gone away—
Death will stay

I watched the rescue men, bored and waiting
shuffling, standing, leaning, with nothing to do
And I listened to the comments of the crowd
I heard he was a man
but no one said a name
One woman said, with satisfaction,
that he took two bullets to the back of his head
"And probably deserved them too"
the man was "playing around"
And "It came back on him"

"It came back on him"
this remained with me quite late
"It came back on him"
For playing with the wrong playmate?
Or against a team of higher authorities
of which he was unaware?
as are we all

A voice in the the crowd said
"He's in a better place now"
meaning, I supposed, that he was merely resting—
Peacefully . . . somewhere?
And I found that as strange as the laughter
In the face of a violent death
A better place indeed!

Now where would that be?
Does such a place exist that is better
than nonexistence yet not existence?
Is that place leaning against a rescue machine
drinking coffee?
Is that place amongst the gawkers looking
intently as if for clues to their own existence at
where they are glad they are not?
Oh yes! Any place, but beneath a thick
and sickly yellow sheet with a red corona
that does not cover your feet

The higher authorities that hold the leash
against the avid and hungry Death
grip the leather loosely and often
let the beast roam free
When death is about—It's best to appear
as invisible, be a face in the crowd
speak softly, say nothing aloud
and do not distinguish yourself with laughter,
comments, or even sobs
Let the "old man" do his simple job and move on

Life—a hell of a thing

–Eric A. Clark

Cuckoo

Soft presence
Plucking dormant strings.
To you celtic melody
We briefly danced together
Each leading joyously.
But a dissonant note
From ancient ways
Jarred our gently song
And you left
Singing another tune.

–Mary Whaley

Witness

I can hear
a footfall
far down the street
seeking a door
without having a hope
I can hear
a bird's song
losing its sweet note
In the middle of life
where strangers are adrift
I can hear
a thousand sounds
trying to mix with the night
to find peace of mind
In the middle of chaos
I can hear
my own heart
thumping its own way
towards another day

I can see
years upon years
stretching ahead
with all this waiting
for the second coming
I can see
millions of people
kneeling on their knees
In their own secret places
sobbing away
their hopelessness
I can see
a friendly gesture
rejected in fear
or flung away
In total distrust
I can see
a singer
singing on a street corner
ignored by the crowds
embittered by the world
I can see my own shadow
broken in half
In my own effort
to embrace myself

I can hear
voices striking
at hearts of stone
unknown
lost
I can hear
whole jungles grow
blotting out the sun
spreading
killing

I can hear
time itself
begging for a
little more time
to heal
or to scar over
I can hear
my own tears
dropping upon my heart
drowning
encompassing all
the lonely years
without any love at all
I'm dead

–Bac Hoai Tran

Classifieds

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Free English Classes: Small classes afternoons and evenings at St. Giles College, One Hallidie Plaza at Powell Station (corner of Powell and Market sts., next to the Gap shop), 3rd Fl., San Francisco, (415) 788-3552.

VOLUNTEERS

Drivers Urgently Needed: Project Open Hand needs drivers to deliver hot meals and groceries to people with AIDS. Anyone can be a volunteer. Interested persons must attend an orientation meeting, held every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. at 2720 17th St. For more info call 255-2529.

Volunteer Southeast Asian Peer AIDS Educators Needed (ages 15 to 25): Learn leadership and communication skills by becoming a peer educator. Southeast Asian youths interested in social work and health education, and who are willing to make at least a six-month commitment are encouraged to volunteer. No prior experience is necessary. For more information call Nith Lacroix, 885-2743.

BULLETIN BOARD

AIDS/HIV Nightline: The AIDS/HIV hotline provides a safe, non-judgmental place to discuss your concerns about having AIDS or HIV. You can call once or every night. It might feel a little awkward at first to talk to a stranger about personal issues over the phone, but often it ends up being a relief to share what you're going through with someone who cares. Call 668-AIDS in San Francisco, 1-800-273-AIDS in Northern California. Hours are 9 p.m.-5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5 p.m.-5 a.m., Sat. and Sun.

Hearing: A hearing will be held by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Arbitration concerning leaving Nine Inches of Scars, due to Non-Emergency Treatment in behalf of David Anthony Fallon.

Bereavement Support: Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders has private bereavement support for senior gay men who have lost loved ones. For info, call George, 626-7000.

Help for Parents: The TALK Line (Telephone Aid in Living with Kids) is a 24-hour crisis line to help parents cope with stress and loneliness by providing immediate crisis intervention, as well as long-term follow-up and support. Parents are listened to and helped any time day or night, 365 days a year. Call 441-KIDS and reach out for a friend.

Counseling and Referrals for Veterans: Vietnam veterans are encouraged to participate in individual, couples, group, and family counseling at the San Francisco Veteran's Center, 25 Van Ness Ave. Veterans from other wars are eligible for job referrals and homeless services. The center does not discriminate against any vet according to discharge status; however, some employers and homeless agencies working with the center may. Call 431-6022.

San Francisco Women Against Rape: Free confidential services. 24-hour hotline, in-person counseling, support groups, advocacy with the police and courts, and prevention education. Call 647-RAPE.

To place a Tenderloin Times classified ad, Call 776-0700

Breakfast & Lunch

American & Filipino Food

2 LUNCH ITEMS $2.99 !

3 LUNCH ITEMS $3.99 !

244 TAYLOR ST.
(Between ELLIS & EDDY)
346 - 4513

Our Thanks to the Generous Sponsors of the 1991 Tender Champs:

Alice Adams • Mayor Art Agnos • Supervisor Angela Alioto
Poul Anderson • Douglas Berl • James Brice, Diagnostic Imaging
B.J. Barron, Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Center
Jeanne Zarka Brooks, Saint Anthony Foundation
Assemblyman John Burton • Rand Castile, Asian Art Museum
Chevron Corporation • Eric Christenson • Eugene Coleman
Deirdre English • Financial Center Bank • Tom Goldstein
Herb Chao Gunther • Heart of the City Farmers Market • Diana Hembree
Sheriff Michael Hennessey • Richard Hongisto • Victor & Lorraine Honig
Alain Ane, Hotel Nikko • Paul Boschetti, Hotel Verona • Linda Jue
Victor Kayfetz, Scan Edit • Michael Kelly • Supervisor Willie Kennedy
KTSF—Channel 26 • LEF Foundation
Peter Lowe & Nancy Hechinger-Lowe • Betty Medsger
Lucinda Mehran • John Mendelson, M.D. • Miller Freeman, Inc.
Father William Norn, Episcopal Sanctuary • Duc Nguyen
Noe Valley Voice • North of Market Planning Coalition
North of Market Senior Center • Helene Oppenheimer
Timothy Leong, PG & E • Brad Paul • Rollin Post • Mark Powelson
Bob Prentice • Raul Ramirez • Reality House West • Rosalie Ross
San Francisco Chronicle • Ethel Sanjines
San Francisco Senior Services, Downtown Branch
Randy Shaw, Tenderloin Housing Clinic • Judy Shelton • Peter Stein
Robert Tobin • TODCO • David Werdegar, M.D. • Sally Woodbridge
Harold Yee, Asian, Inc. • Youth Advocates

calendar

compiled by Greer Lleuad
and Erik Williams

Friday, September 27:

From the Six Corners: Art by Katherine Betz, Jason Godeke, Denny Holland, Alan Hunter, Dennis Murphy, and Adam Savage will be exhibited though Oct. 3. Nelson Morales Gallery, 140 Geary St., Ste. 301. Gallery hours: Tues., Thurs., Sat., noon-6 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For info call 255-1432.

Running Amok: Comedy improv held the last Friday of each month at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 9 p.m. **Free.**

509 Art: Recent work by Jakub Kalousek will be shown through Oct. 5. Gallery hours are by appt. For info call 346-1308. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St. **Free.**

Main Flow—Or For Piano: Kensuke Egashira's multi-media installation will be exhibited through Oct. 26. Reception for the artist will be held Oct. 4, 5-8 p.m. Gallery hours are by appt. For info call 255-5971. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market St. **Free.**

Mid-Afterlife Crisis: Mal Karman's dark comedy, "The Bones of Simon Bottle," will run through Oct. 20. Zephyr Theater, 25 Van Ness Ave., Wed.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Admission: $16.50 and $20. Student and senior discounts available. For info call 861-6895.

Women's Writing Workshop: A fiction and poetry workshop for women of the Tenderloin every Friday. Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, 135 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Fl., 2-4 p.m. **Free.**

Saturday, September 28:

Solutions to Poverty Workshop: Held the fourth Saturday of each month at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 1-3 p.m. **Free.**

The Art of Being Carmen: Nena St. Louis' trilogy performance novel is the story of an ambitious young black artist who lives in Nebraska. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8:30 p.m. Admission: $5.

Monday, September 30:

Special 509 Films: The Jack Stevenson Film Show will be shown to raise money for the 509 Film Society. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8 p.m. For info call 346-1308. Admission: $3 or membership.

Tuesday, October 1:

509 Talent: Open microphone for music, poetry, comedy, dance, and more every Tuesday at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St. Sign-ups at 7:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Admission: $3.

Beyond the Java Sea: A number of films, discussions, and celebrations focusing on the art of Indonesia's outer islands will be featured October and November at the Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. For info. call 668-8921.

Benefit for Catholic Charities AIDS/ARC Services: Original music and videos by Carnal Kitchen and Rocky Meadows & Paula Brisker, and a play by Glenn Davis will be featured at St. Mary's Cathedral, Cathedral Hall, 1111 Gough St., 7:30-11 p.m. For info call 441-9172.

AIDS and the New Community: A photography exhibit and symposia focusing on AIDS will be be held through Nov. 4 at Grace Cathedral, 1051 Taylor St., 5:30-8 p.m. For info call 776-6611. **Free.**

Woman Spirit: A place for women to share stories of survival and hope every Tuesday. Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, 135 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Fl., 2-3 p.m. **Free.**

Wednesday, October 2:

Lesbian Support Group: For older lesbians. Bring a bag lunch. 1853 Market St., noon-2 p.m. Will also be held Oct. 16. **Free.**

Musicians Workshop: Come create music in the popular spirit every Wednesday. Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, 135 Golden Gate Ave., 4th Fl., 1-3 p.m. **Free.**

Thursday, October 3:

Paint the Gospel of the Street: Discussion and painting of Gospel stories every Thursday. Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, 135 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Fl., 1-4 p.m. **Free.**

Bible Discussion Group: Radical reflections on the Gospel with Tenderloin residents and homeless every Thursday. Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, 135 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd Fl., 10-11 a.m. **Free.**

Friday, October 4:

God Bless the Animals: The Second Annual Blessing of Animals celebrating the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi will be held at St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate Ave., 3-5 p.m. every half hour. All are invited to bring pets of any type. **Free.**

Strangers In Good Company, a film about 7 older women stranded in the Canadian wilderness, marks the feature film debut of Cynthia Scott, director of the Oscar-winning short "Flamenco at 5:15." Starring Michelle Sweeney and Constance Garneau, Strangers opens Friday, Oct 4., at the Gateway Cinema, 215 Jackson St., 421-3353. Kathleen Carroll of the New York Daily News wrote: "This is a truly daring and unique movie. One hates to leave these remarkable women."

Saturday, October 5:

CPR Class: An infant and child CPR class will be held at Health Center #4, 1490 Mason St., 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. To pre-register call 558-2308. Fee: $15 for class materials.

Saturday, October 6:

Boogie Down: The Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders/Bay Area Old Lesbian Dance will be held at the Sailboat Club House, Lake Merritt, Oakland, 3-6 p.m. Admission $7.

Monday, October 7:

Poetry Reading: The work of Jerry Miley will be featured at Hospitality House's poetry reading, held the first Monday of each month, 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 7 p.m. **Free.**

Women's Writing Workshop: For older lesbians. 1853 Market St., 6-8 p.m. Will also be held Oct. 21. **Free.**

Thursday, October 10:

Make*A*Friend: Older gay men's friendship group meets at 711 Eddy St., 2:45 p.m. Will also meet Oct. 24. **Free.**

Right to Healthcare Hearing: Local hearing on Senate Bill 36 with senators Nick Petris and Quentin Kopp. St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., 10 a.m. **Free.**

Friday, October 11:

Poets Up Front: Benefit for The People's Tribune. Luis J. Rodriguez, author of "Concrete River," will be featured with poet/activists Sarah Menefee, Luis Talamantez, Bob Wilson, Margot Pepper, Anthony Aiwa-Oba, Jorge Argueta, Jack Hirschman, and anti-censorship activist Ed Oasa. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market St., 7:30 p.m. Donation requested.

Saturday, October 12:

What a Bargain!: Clothing, books, housewares, and more for sale at the San Francisco Senior Center's annual rummage sale, 890 Beach St., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **Free.**

Sunday, October 13:

Let's Eat: Potluck brunch for older gay men. Bring a dish to share. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St., noon-3 p.m. **Free.**

Choices and Chances: A performance of tales by Hans Christian Andersen will benefit the Bay Area deaf community. St. Benedict's Church, 2869 Bush St., 12:30 p.m. Admission: $3 adults, $1 children, free for children 4 and younger.

Monday, October 14:

Nuclear Thinking: Nigerian philospher Anthony A. Aiya-Oba's discussions meet the second Monday of each month at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8 p.m. Donation requested but not mandatory.

Thursday, October 17:

Twisted Psychos: Daniel Mangin's "Psycho Killers and Twisted Sisters," a documentary about lesbian and gay stereotypes, will be shown at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., 7 and 9:30 p.m. Admission: $6 general, $3 seniors and children.

Friday, October 18:

The Beamish Boys: Music to go at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8:30 p.m. Donation requested.

Saturday, October 19:

That Crazy Beat: "Crazy percussionist" Jeffrey Alphonsus Mooney, performance artist Oskar Alaska, and singer/songwriter Lisa Palty will be featured at The Luggage Store, 1007 Market St., 8:30 p.m. Donation requested.

Monday, October 21:

Many Fingers: Stanley Kramer's "The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T" will be shown at the 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8 p.m., $3.

Friday, October 25:

GLOE Show: The variety show "Vivent Les Differences" rejoices in older lesbians' and gay men's experiences. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., 8 p.m. Also showing Oct. 26. Admission: $5 general, 60 years and older. **Free.**

Income Rights Project

Advocacy Education Organizing

Barbara Nabors-Glass, J.D.
Executive Director

Board of Directors:

Barbara Daggs
Steve Eyres
Ralph Lane
Penny Letson
Kathy Looper
Laura Luster
Phil Ritter
Tim Sampson
Charlene Tschirhart

Congratulations Tenderloin Times

■ 225 Valencia Street ■ San Francisco, CA 94103 ■ 431-9771

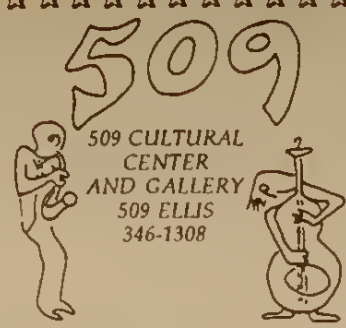
Has City Hall given up on the Tenderloin?
Come and find out at
the Tenderloin Mayoral Candidates Forum
Saturday, Oct. 5, 1-3 p.m.,
240 Golden Gate Ave.

Don't miss this year's
Tender Champs
Awards Dinner
Wednesday, Oct. 2
The Elks Club
5:30-8:30 p.m.
For ticket information, call
776-0700.

GRAFFIK NATWICKS
Clark Natwick
Owner/Operator
AFL/CIO Member 40 Years
1 & 2 COLOR PRINTING

240 Golden Gate Ave. SF 94102
441-0878
2 Locations
to Serve You
359-3600
1108 Valencia Way Pacifica 94044

在些處有
中文服務



Congratulations
Tender Champs and
The Tenderloin Times
for your
work!

Thank you
Tenderloin Times
for the vital service you provide

◆

The United Way HELPLINE
772-HELP

◆

Immigrant Assistance Line
554-2444

Swords to Plowshares

◆ *serving veterans since 1974* ◆

salutes
The Tenderloin Times

◆

Strengthening our community with involved and professional journalism

◆

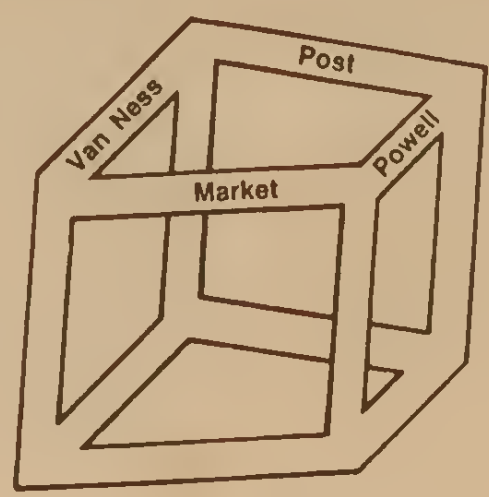
400 Valencia Street ◆ 552-8804

Transitional Housing Program
44 McAllister Street ◆ 553-8841

A Special Thank You to
Joyce Goldstein and
Square One Restaurant for their
Generous Contribution of
Desserts to the
Tender Champs Event this Year.

Congratulations
from the

North of Market Planning Coalition



14 years working
together for a
better neighborhood.

Congratulations
to the Tender Champs

Father Tom Flower
Rachel Gordon
Janice Mirikitani
Betty Mangual

from the **San Francisco AIDS Foundation**
providing benefits counseling, support groups,
education, advocacy, outreach services and
AIDS information to San Francisco
and northern California.

English and Spanish Hotline:
1-415-863-AIDS or 1-800-367-2437
Filipino Hotline: 1-800-FIL-AIDS

Saint Boniface Parish
and the
Franciscan Friars,
celebrating over 100 years of service
in the Tenderloin,
salute **The Tenderloin Times**
on its 14th Anniversary.
Ad multos annos!

Travelers' Aid San Francisco
Congratulates
◆ *The Tenderloin Times* ◆
for its Service to the Community

Congratulations
Tenderloin Times & Tender Champs
BAY AREA WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER
318 Leavenworth
SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA 94102
(415) 474-2400
BAWRC

Congratulations
to the
Tenderloin Times
and the
Tender Champs '91
from the
St. Vincent de Paul Society
of San Francisco

Board, Staff, and Volunteers

Breaking the Cycles of Homelessness

Catholic Charities
and its
Board, Staff, and Volunteers
salute the
Tenderloin Times

"The quest for economic and social justice will always combine hope and realism, and must be renewed by every generation."
—U.S. Bishops Pastoral Letter on the Economy

Here's to another great year.

Congratulations
to the
Tender Champs
and
The Tenderloin Times
from
Reality House West
and
Cadillac Hotel

Congratulations to
The Tenderloin Times
from the
University of California
Hastings College of the Law

Founded in 1878
The Original Law Department of the University of California

THE AMERICAN
CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
of Northern California
Congratulates
the Multilingual Fighting Voice of
The Tenderloin Times

ACLU-NC
1663 Mission street, Suite 460
San Francisco, CA 94103

Image: Nancy Casalina, Video Arts, Inc.

A documentary investigation of the biggest financial disaster in U.S. history, co-produced by CIR and FRONTLINE. Airing October 22 on PBS stations nationwide. (*Check local listings for times.*)

Center for Investigative Reporting
530 Howard Street - 2nd floor
San Francisco CA 94105
(415) 543-1200

Congratulations to this year's Tender Champs!

THE
TENDERLOIN TIMES

Thank you for your unselfish dedication to improving and enriching the lives of everyone in the neighborhood.

TIN TỨC CỘNG ĐỒNG NGƯỜI VIỆT

Cám ơn sự miệt mài và vô tư của bạn trong việc cải tiến và làm giàu cuộc sống cho mọi người trong khu vực.

ຂ່າວໃນກຸ່ມຊາວລາວ

ຂໍ້ຂອບໃຈທີ່ທ່ານຍອມເສັຍສລະສ່ວນຕົວເພື່ອຊ່ວຍເຫລືອທຸກໆຄົນໃນຄຸ້ມນີ້

ᨾᨾᨾ

HERE'S TO THE LOCAL HEROES, CHAMPIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Citibank proudly congratulates
this year's Tender Champs
and salutes their victories in creating
a new vision for the
Tenderloin Community

CITIBANK®

Citibank, F.S.B.

Congratulations to

The Tenderloin Times

TENDERLOIN HOUSING CLINIC

Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corp.

230 Hyde Street, San Francisco 94102, (415) 776-2151

tndc

- Providing Affordable Housing
- Strengthening the Community

Aarti Hotel
391 Leavenworth
SF 94102

Civic Center Res.
44 McAllister
SF 94102

Klimm Apts.
460 Ellis
SF 94102

Sierra Madre Apts.
421 Leavenworth
SF 94102

Yosemite Apts.
480 Eddy
SF 94109

Franciscan Towers
217 Eddy
SF 94102

220 Pierce
SF 94117

398 Haight
SF 94117

Congratulations to the Tender Champs!

Vietnamese Youth Development Center
congratulates the
Tender Champs
and
The Tenderloin Times

330 Ellis Street ◆ Suite 507 ◆ 771-2600

The friends and family of the Glide community

at

GLIDE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

congratulate and acknowledge

THE 1991 TENDER CHAMPS

FR. THOMAS FLOWER
RACHEL GORDON
BETTY MANGUAL

and our own

JANICE MIRIKITANI

THE HAIGHT ASHBURY FREE CLINICS

extends its commendations and congratulations to

THE 1991 TENDER CHAMPS

JANICE MIRIKITANI
BETTY MANGUAL
FATHER THOMAS FLOWER
RACHEL GORDON

A very special congratulations to Ms. Janice Mirikitani who has provided leadership and inspiration to our programs for community service growth in the Haight

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc.
Drug Detoxification
Rehabilitation & Aftercare Program
529 Clayton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

CONGRATULATIONS

to *The Tenderloin Times* for its reporting on the Tenderloin Community.

KTVU/Channel 2

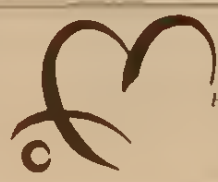
San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation

Congratulations to *The Tenderloin Times* for their continued service to the Tenderloin community

49 Powell Street ◆ San Francisco, CA ◆ 94102 ◆ 627-0200

North of Market Senior Services
Comprehensive health and social services for seniors

Francis J. Curry Center • 333 Turk Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 885-2274



North & South Market Adult Day Health
Health care and social opportunities for disabled adults and elders

55 Mabini Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 882-7301

Congratulations to *The Tenderloin Times*

Lutheran Social Services

Congratulates *The Tenderloin Times* for Providing Vital Information to the Community

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT SERVICES & IMMIGRATION COUNSELING
1101 O'Farrell Street San Francisco 94109 474-8400

FREEWHEELERS

Providing Day on the Town Outings for the Wheelchair Able of the Tenderloin.
Call 552-9119 or 664-3620
Volunteers Welcome.

Real People, Real Value

The John Stewart Company commends The Tenderloin Times for their continued service to the community.

THE JOHN STEWART COMPANY
2310 MASON STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94133

រឿងដែលមិនគួរអោយជឿបានគឺមានមនុស្សចង់កូនក្មេងប្រុស

ដោយ Julie Scheff

តាបរយៈការស្រាវជ្រាវបួយគេបានឲ្យដឹងថា យ៉ាងហោចណាស់ក៏មានរឿងបណ្តឹងចំនួនពីរដែរនៅក្នុងសង្កាត់ចិនឌីលញ្ញនេះដែលមានការទាក់ទងក្នុងបញ្ហារឿងចាប់តុមារអាស៊ីរំលោភដល់កើន្ត្រីភេទ។ ដោយសារតែរឿងដូច្នេះមានកើតឡើង ទើបបានជាគេរៀបចអោយមានជាតណៈកម្មការបួយដើម្បីជួយធ្វើឱ្យប្រជាជននៅក្នុងសហគមឱ្យបានដឹង អំពីរឿងដ៏គ្រោះថ្នាក់នេះ ដោយបានរៀបចំបោះពុម្ពជាព័ត៌មានផ្សេងៗជាភាសារនៃជនជាតិភាគច្រើនចិន មានខ្មែរ, លាវ និងយួនជាដើម។

គណៈកម្មការនេះគេបានដាក់ឈ្មោះថា, "បញ្ឈប់ការចាប់រំលោភលើកុមារអាស៊ី" ដែលចាប់មើកការប្រជុំតាំងពក្នុងខែកុម្ភៈឆ្នាំ1990បកប្លែ: គឺដើម្បីជួយណែនាំ និងពន្យល់ដល់ក្រុមជនភៀសខ្លួនអាស៊ីដែលមានលាវ ខ្មែរ ចិន យួនជាដើមថា តើអ្វីទៅដែលគេហៅPedophiles, មនុស្សដែលមានចំណង់ចំណូលចិត្តប្រព្រឹត្តល្បែងស្នេហាជាមួយកូនក្មេង។

ខាងក្រសួងប៉ូលីស និងអ្នកធ្វើការនៅក្រសួងសង្គមកិច្ច បាននិយាយថា កុមារអាស៊ី គឺជាទីបំផុតប្រាថ្នារបស់ជនល្មោភកាបដ៏ចម្លែកនេះណាស់។ ចូនកាលជនចម្លែកនេះ បានចងសម្ពន្ធ៍មិត្តភាពយ៉ាងជ្រាលជ្រៅជាមួយនឹងត្រួសារអាស៊ីដែលមានកូនចៅតូចៗ។ បន្ទាប់ពីមានការអាត់ទាក់ដែលគួរឲ្យទុកចិត្តនេះបក ជនចម្លែកនេះតាំងចាប់ផ្តើមប្រព្រឹត្តរឿងផ្តេសផ្តាសដោយនាំមើលរូបកុនស្រាត និងមានឲ្យជារង្វាន់ដល់កូនក្មេងនោះទៀតផងដូចជាមានឱ្យលុយ និងប្រដាប់ក្មេងលេងជាដើម។ នេះគឺតាមការនិយាយរបស់លោករដ្ឋមន្ត្រីការ Tom Eisenmann, ស្តីពីការប៉ូលីសទទួលបន្ទុកផ្នែកយុវជន។

ក្រសួងប៉ូលីសមិនមានស្ថិតិចំនួនកុមារអាស៊ី ដែលបានទទួលរងគ្រោះដោយសារអ្នកស្រីនេះទេ ប៉ុន្តែក្រសួងនេះបានអោយដឹងដែរថា សំណុំរឿងទាំងពីរដែលបានផ្តឹងបតដល់ក្រសួងប៉ូលីសរួចមកហើយនេះ គឺមិនអាចធ្លុះបញ្ចាំងថារឿងនេះ នៅមានច្រើនជាងនេះត៍ទេដែរ ព្រោះបញ្ហានេះគឺទើបនឹងមានសេចក្ដីរាយការណ៍នៅក្នុងពេលថ្មីៗនេះឯង។

"មាតាបិតាមិនជឿថារឿងនេះអាចតើតមានឡើងដល់កូនរបស់ខ្លួនបានព្រោះមកពីគេមិនបានមើលព័ត៌មាន និងមិនមានជំនឿថា មានមនុស្សដែលហ៊ានធ្វើដូច្នេះទៅលើកូនក្មេងនោះផង។" នេះគឺតាមសំដីរបស់អ្នកស្រីចាន់តាណមអ្នកកែវ, អ្នកធ្វើការជាតំណាងនៅបណ្ណាល័យកុមារវ្ហីយ, ផ្ទះវ្ហូលដិនហ្ជេត។ អ្នកស្រីបាននិយាយខ្លួនឯងដែរថាសូម្បីតែខ្លួនអ្នកស្រីផ្ទាល់ ក៏មិនជឿថាអាចមានរឿងដូច្នេះដែរ។

ប៉ុន្តែសំរាប់រូបអ្នកស្រី រឿងពិតដូច្នេះអាចធ្វើឲ្យមានការចុកចាប់ខ្លាំងណាស ព្រោះនៅពេលថ្មីៗនេះ អ្នកស្រីទើបនឹងបានដឹងថា មានមនុស្សប្រុសម្នាក់បាន ចាប់តុមារភាកូនកាត់យួនចិនម្នាក់នៅក្នុងសង្កាត់ចិនឌីលញ្ញដែលមានអាយុទើបបាន12ឆ្នាំរំលោភដល់កើន្ត្រ៍។

តាមសេចក្ដីរាយការណ៍របស់អ្នកស្រីគឺបានអោយដឹងថា មនុស្សប្រុសនោះបានជួបជាមួយនឹងកុមារានោះក្នុងព្រះវិហារ St. Boniface ស្ថិតនៅលើវិថីហ្ជ្ជ្ជ

បងប្អូនអាស៊ីភ័យអំពីរឿងចោរចូលផ្ទះ

ដោយ Julie Scheff និង Sophath Pak

ឧក្រិដ្ឋកម្មលួចប្លន់ដែលកើតមានឡើងជាច្រើនលើកទៅលើបងប្អូនអាស៊ី និងក្រុមពាណិជ្ជករខ្លះកាលពីខែសីហាកន្លងទៅ។ អំពើឧក្រិដ្ឋកម្មនេះគឺបានធ្វើអោយសារធារណៈជនទូទៅជាពិសេសគឺចំពោះបងប្អូនអាស៊ីនៅក្នុងទីក្រុងសាន់ហ្វ្រាន់ស៊ីស្កូមានការភ្ញាក់ផ្អើលយ៉ាងក្រៃលែង។ គេបាននាំគ្នារៀបចំជាអង្គប្រជុំមួយដើម្បីជួបជាមួយលោកបញ្ជាការប៉ូលីស George Kowalski កាលពីខែមុននេះ ឯងនៅក្នុងមណ្ឌល Tenderloin Self Help Center ។

អង្គប្រជុំនេះគឺបានរៀបឡើងដោយគណៈកម្មាធិការអាស៊ីភាគអាគ្នេយ៍នៅ North of Market Planning Coalition។ អ្នកដែលបានចូលរួមប្រជុំទាំងអស់មានចំនួនប្រហែលជា75នាក់ ភាគច្រើនគឺមានបងប្អូនខ្មែរ ចិន និងយួន។ ជនរងគ្រោះចំនួន6នាក់បានឡើងធ្វើសេចក្តីរាយការណ៍ពីការពិសោធន៍ភ្លាមៗនៅចំពោះបុខលោកមេបញ្ជាការប៉ូលីស Kowalski និងភ្នាក់ងាររបស់លោកពីរនាក់ទៀត។

តាមរយៈអង្គប្រជុំ លោក Kowalski បានមានប្រសាសន៍ថា លោកធ្លាប់បានដឹង អំពីឧក្រិដ្ឋកម្មផ្សេងទៀត។ "កែខ្ញុំមិនបានដឹងសោះពីរឿងលួចប្លន់នេះ។" តាមសំដីរបស់លោកKowalski លោកបានបញ្ជាក់ទៀតថា,"ព្រោះគ្មាននរណាប្រាប់ខ្ញុំអំពីរឿងនេះសោះ។ បញ្ហាគមកពីការមិនចេះភាសា និងការដែលមិនទុកចិត្តប៉ូលីស ដែលមាននៅក្នុងសហគម។ ជាការពិតណាស់គឺយើងត្រូវកែយកឈ្នះនៅក្នុងរឿងនេះ។"

អ្នកស្រីសុខ, ក្រសុស, 63ឆ្នាំ, បាននិយាយនៅក្នុងអង្គប្រជុំតាមរយៈអ្នកបកប្រែថា, "កាលពីថ្ងៃទី6 ខែសីហាកន្លងទៅ នៅវេលាម៉ោង 5:30ល្ងាចមានយុវជនជំទង់បីនាក់ ពាក់ស្រោមមុខជិត និងមានពាក់អាវងារពណ៌ខ្មៅសញ្ញា"Raiders"បានចូលទៅក្នុងផ្ទះគាត់ គឺនៅក្នុងអាគារមួយនៅលើផ្លូវអេឌីដែលនៅក្នុងនោះគ្រួសារគាត់ទាំងអស់មានគ្នាប្រាំពីរនាក់។ គាត់បានរាយការណ៍ដល់ប៉ូលីសដែលបានបកពិនិត្យដល់ទីកន្លែងថា ឧក្រិដ្ឋជនទាំង3នាក់នោះ គឺជាយុវជនជាតិអាស៊ីសុទ្ធសាធព្រោះពួកវាបានមានឧស្ម័កហើយភាសារង់គ្លេសដែលវានិយាយគឺមានសម្លេងតុងបិនបែនជាកូនអាគាំងទេ។ នៅមុនពេលដែលពួកវាចេញទៅវិញ ពួកវាបាននិយាយថា, "យើងនឹងត្រ-ឡប់មកម្តងទៀត។"

លោកពាន, ពីនជាជនភៀសខ្លួនខ្មែរដែលបានជួលផ្ទះនៅផ្លូវជ្ជ្ជ្

ມີກຸ່ມສາມັກຄີຈັດຕັ້ງຂຶ້ນເພື່ອປາບການຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍເອເຊັຽ

ໂດຍ: ວຸລີ ເຊຟ

ເພື່ອເປັນການປ້ອງກັນເນື່ອງຈາກວ່າເວລາຜ່ານໆມານີ້ໄດ້ມີກໍລະນີເດັກນ້ອຍເອເຊັຽອາດະເນໃນຄຸ້ມເຫັນເດີລອຍປ່ວງຕ່ຳສອງຄົນຖືກຂົ່ມຂືນ, ໄດ້ມີການຈັດຕັ້ງກຸ່ມສາມັກຄີຫນຶ່ງຂຶ້ນເພື່ອຕັກເຕືອນໃຫ້ຊາວເອເຊັຽພາກັນຣະມັດຣະວັງອັນຕະຣາຍໂດຍມີການພິມແຈກຢາຍເອກສານເປັນພາສາຂະເມັນແລະຈີນແລະໃນຂ້າງຫນ້າຈະພິມອອກມາເປັນພາສາລາວແລະພາສາວຽດ.

ດນະສາມັກຄີດັ່ງກ່າວນີ້ຊື່ວ່າ "ຢຸດຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍເອເຊັຽ"(Stop Sexual Abuse of Asian Children)ຊຶ່ງໄດ້ປະຊຸມກັນມາແຕ່ເດືອນກຸມພາ ດ.ສ.ດ.ດ ເພື່ອບອກໃຫ້ຄົນເອເຊັຽຮູ້ໄວ້ກ່ຽວກັບບຸກຄົນແປກຫນ້າທີ່ນັກແລະຫາຣ່ວມເພດຫລືເສບກາມກັບເດັກນ້ອຍຊຸ້ຊາຍ.

ເຈົ້າຫນ້າທີ່ຕຳຣວດແລະພະນັກງານສັງຄົມເວົ້າວ່າເດັກນ້ອຍຊາວເອເຊັຽໂດຍສະເພາະອາດຖືກຂົ່ມຂືນໄດ້ຢ່າງວ່າຍໆຈາກຄົນແປກຫນ້າ. ບາງຄົ້ງຄົນທີ່ນັກຮ່ວມເພດກັບເດັກນ້ອຍໃຊ້ແສນໄປຮັກແພງ ລ້ຽງແກ່ນກັບຄອບຄົວອີພຍິບເປັນຢ່າງດີເສັຽກ່ອນແລ້ວຈຶ່ງເຂົ້າໄປເຖິງເດັກນ້ອຍດ້ວຍການສອນພາສາອັງກິດຫລືບໍ່ກ່ຍົວະເດັກນ້ອຍໃຫ້ຫລິ້ງໄຫລໃນເກມວິດີໂອແລະເສີມຂະຍາຍຄວາມໄວ້ເນື້ອເຊື່ອໃຈດ້ວຍການເອົາຂອງຂວັນ, ເງິນຫລືເຄື່ອງເຫລົ້ນໃຫ້ເຂົາ, ຕາມນາຍສາຣະວັດຕຳຣວດທອນ ໄອເຊັນມັນ ແຫ່ງກົມຕຳຣວດແຊນແຟຣນຝ່າຍເດັກນ້ອຍເລົ່າສູ່ຟັງ.

ທາງກົມຕຳຣວດບໍ່ມີສະຖິຕິຄັກແນ່ວ່າມີເດັກເອເຊັຽອາດະເນຖືກເປັນເຫຍື່ອອາຊະຍະກັນແບບນີ້ຈົນຄົນແລ້ວຫາກແຕ່ວ່າສອງກໍລະນີທີ່ໄດ້ຣາຍງານມານີ້ສ່ອງໃຫ້ເຫັນຄວາມກວ້າງຂວາງຂອງປັນຫາທີ່ມີຢູ່ຢ່າງແທ້ຈິງ. ຕຳຣວດມີຄວາມຄິດເຫັນວ່າອາຊະຍະກັນແບບນີ້ຫາກມີຊຸ້ລີເລີ່ມຣາຍງານໃຫ້ຮູ້.

ເນື່ອງຈາກວ່າເຣື່ອງນີ້ເປັນເຣື່ອງອັບອາຍຂາຍຫນ້າສຳຣັບຄົນເອເຊັຽ, ນິຫນ້ອຍຄົນທີ່ເວົ້າເຖິງນັ້ນແລະສຳຣັບຄົນອື່ນກໍບໍ່ປາກເຊື່ອว่าจะมีชุ้ใดชุ้ຫນຶ່ງກະທຳອາຊະຍະກັນທີ່ວ່າມານີ້ລົງໄດ້. ເວລາໃດຮູ້ເຫັນເຣື່ອງເກີດຂຶ້ນແລ້ວຂະເຈົ້າກໍພະຍາຍາມເວົ້າປົກປ້ອງຕົວເອງว่าเรื่องนี้จะบ่เกิดขึ้นกับขะเจ้าเອງຫລືວ່າລູກເຕົ້າຂອງຂະເຈົ້າ, ຕາມໄຊຊຽວເວີກເກີເວົ້າ.

ນາງຈັນຖນອມ ອຸ່ນແກ້ວ ຊຶ່ງເປັນພະນັກງານກຳກັບເດັກນ້ອຍທີ່ສູນກາງວີຢີ (Wu Yee Children Center) ຢູ່ຖນົນໂກລເດນເກດຊຶ່ງເຄີຍໄດ້ຊ່ວຍຄອບຄົວຊຸ້ໄດ້ຮັບເຄາະຈາກການຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍມາກ່ອນເວົ້າດັ່ງນີ້ວ່າ : "ຄອບຄົວ(ເອເຊັຽ) ບໍ່ເຄີຍເຊື່ອว่าเรื่องนี้จะเกิดขึ้นกับเดักน้อยยังอบว่าเขาเจ้าบ่อ่านหลือฟังข่าวและขะเจ้าบ่เชื่อว่าจะมีชุ้ใดชุ້ຫນຶ່ງກ້າທຳສິ່ງນີ້ກັບເດັກນ້ອຍຊຸ້ຊາຍ. ຂ້ອຍເອງກໍບໍ່ເຊື່ອຄືກັນ."

ແຕ່ສຳຣັບນາງຈັນຖນອມແລ້ວຄວາມເປັນຈິງເປັນເຣື່ອງຕົກຕະລຶງ ຫວ່າງມໍ່ງໆມານີ້ນາງໄດ້ຮູ້ກໍລະນີຊຸ້ຊາຍຊຸ້ຫນຶ່ງໄດ້ລ່ວງເກີນທາງເພດກັບເດັກນ້ອຍຊຸ້ຊາຍຈີນວຽດນາມອາຍຸ ດ.ດ ປີຊຸ້ຫນຶ່ງໃນຄຸ້ມເຫັນເດີລອຍ. ຈັນຖນອມໄດ້ຮູ້ແລະເລົ່າໃຫ້ຟັງว่าชายคืนบั้นได้พบกับเดักน้อยชายยู่ใบคเชุนใบนิเฟดส์ยู่ถนินไกลเดนเกดซึ่งบ่ต่างไกจากบ้อนทำงานของนางพ่ท่ใด. ບ່ຮູ້ว่าชุ้กะทำผิด, ຊື່ว่าสะเตเฟิน ເລວິສ ເຮ້ກັນອີກຊື່ຫນຶ່ງว่า ເດວິດ ໂຟກສ໌) ໄດ້ລໍ່ເດັກດັ່ງກ່າວແບບໃດ. ຕຳຣວດໄດ້ຈັບຕົວຊຸ້ຮ້າຍໄປຂັງໄວ້ແລ້ວໃນວັນທີ ດ.ດ ສິງຫາແລະຈະໄດ້ລົງໂທດຖານທຳອາຊະຍະກັນຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍ. ຕຳຣວດກຳລັງສືບว่าชุ้ກ່ຽວຍັງໄດ້ຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍຊຸ້ຊາຍຄົນອື່ນຫລືບໍ່.

ນາງຈັນຖນອມເວົ້າว่าหวางใจแด่ย้อนว่าชุ้ຊາຍຄົນນັ້ນຖືກຈັບແລ້ວແລະສະບາຍໃຈທີ່ຈະແຈ້ງໃຫ້ຊຸມຊຸນຄົນເອເຊັຽອາດະເນว่าเรื่องนี้บ่มีความจิงแท້ສຳໃດສຳຣັບເດັກນ້ອຍ.

"ຂ້ອຍຄິດว่าต้องแต่บัดนี้เป็นต้นไปเวลาใดมีອົງການຈັດການປະຊຸມຫລືຊຸມນຸມຊຸນຄວນຈະເວົ້າເຖິງເຣື່ອງນີ້ເພື່ອໃຫ້ຊຸ້ເປັນພ່ແມ່ໄດ້ເວົ້າສູ່ລູກເຕົ້າຂະເຈົ້າຟັງແລະປ້ອງກັນຂະເຈົ້າໄວ້,"ຈັນຖນອມກ່າວ.

ນາງນ້ອຍເວັນດີ ຫວງ, ກ ປີ, ໄດ້ສ້າງຄວາມສົນໃຈແລະຫນ້າຮັກໃນຂະນະທີ່ຝັນນາຕສີລປ່ລາວໃຫ້ບັນດາແຂກທີ່ມາຮ່ວມໃນງານຫາຣາຍໄດ້ສຳຣັບໂຮງຮຽນສອນພາສາລາວໃນຄ່ຳຄືນວັນທີ ດ໑ ກັນຍາແລ້ວນີ້ທີ່ຟີອດເນຊັນ,ຊຟຊກ

ຖ້າຕ້ອງການຣາຍງານການຂົ່ມຂືນເດັກນ້ອຍ:

- **Children's Emergency Services:** 665-0757 (ຕລອດ ດ.ດ ຊົ່ວໂມງ)
- **Police Juvenile Bureau:** 553-0123 (ຕລອດ ດ.ດ ຊົ່ວໂມງ); 553-1321 (ຜ ນ. ເຊົ້າຫາ ໕ ນ.ແລງ)
- **Child Adolescent Sexual Abuse Resource Center :** 821-8386
- **Department of Social Services Hotline:** 665-0757

ພາສາຕ່າງຊາດ:

Richmond Area Multiservices: 668-5955 ລາວ, ຂເມັນ, ວຽດ, ໄທ, ກວາງຕຸ້ງ ແລະຈີນກາງ.

ການປະຊຸມຕະລອດປະຈຳປີຂອງສະຫະພັນສະມາຄົມແຫ່ງອະເມຣິກາໃນເບເອເຣັ່ງ ມີຄວາມສຳເຣັດ,ບົກພ່ອງແລະຢາກປ່ອງດອງສາມັກຄີໂດຍເນັ້ນໃສ່ຊາດ

ຂຽນໂດຍ: ວັນດີ ສີວິງໄຊ

ສະຫະພັນສະມາຄົມແຫ່ງອະເມຣິກາ ຊຶ່ງປັດນີ້ມີສູນກາງຢູ່ທີ່ເມືອງເມີກຟຣີບຸໂລຣັຖເຫັນເນສຊີແລະຊຶ່ງເປັນອົງການທີ່ບໍ່ຄ້າຫາກຳໄຣ, ໄດ້ຈັດປະຊຸມຣະດັບຊາດຂຶ້ນໃນມື້ສະ ຫ ວ ນ ທ ອ ດ ດ ດ

Mối đe dọa về nạn cưỡng bức trẻ em Á Châu

Phóng sự điều tra của Julie Scheff
Bản dịch Việt ngữ của Bac Hoai Tran

Sau khi người ta khám phá ra có hai trường hợp trẻ em gốc Đông Nam Á sống ở khu Tenderloin bị cưỡng bức, một hiệp hội đã được thành lập nhằm mục đích khuyến cáo người dân trong cộng đồng Tenderloin bằng chính ngôn ngữ của họ về mối hiểm họa này.

Hiệp hội này bao gồm hơn 25 tổ chức cung cấp dịch vụ cho thiếu nhi và được đặt tên là Hiệp Hội Chặn Đứng Nạn Cưỡng Bức Trẻ Em Á Châu. Hiệp hội đã nhóm họp từ tháng 2 năm 1990 để giáo dục người dân gốc Á Châu ý thức được về một loại đàn ông có khuynh hướng muốn quan hệ tình dục với trẻ em.

Giám đốc Norman Yee của tổ chức Wu Yee Children's Services nhận xét: "Đa số bọn đàn ông này dường như hay lui tới trong khu Tenderloin và vòng quanh khu Chinatown. Chúng rỉ tai nhau là ở đây chúng dễ bắt được mồi ngon."

Cảnh sát và những nhân viên xã hội nói rằng trẻ em gốc Đông Nam Á có lẽ dễ trở thành nạn nhân của nhúng sự cưỡng bức này hơn là những trẻ em khác. Theo lời của Thanh tra Tom Eisenmann thuộc Ban Thanh Thiếu Niên của Nha Cảnh Sát San Francisco thì bọn đàn ông này gặp các em bằng cách gạ gẫm những gia đình tị nạn, giúp họ học tiếng Anh, cho con em của họ quà bánh, tiền bạc và đồ chơi.

Ông Eisenmann nói: "Chúng có thể ăn bận côm lê rất là lịch sự hoặc là nhân viên tình nguyện của một tổ chức xã hội nào đó. Bề ngoài họ nom ra có vẻ tử tế, nhưng ai mà ngờ được ý đồ đen tối của họ."

Cảnh sát không có được một con số thống kê chính xác nào về số trẻ em gốc Đông Nam Á đã là nạn nhân của loại tội ác này, nhưng Nha Cảnh Sát cho rằng 2 trường hợp mà họ được báo cho biết có lẽ không phản ảnh đúng thực tế. Họ cho rằng người dân bây giờ mới bắt đầu dám mạnh dạn báo cho cảnh sát biết.

Làm việc trong tổ chức Wu Yee Children's Services, cô Kim Redemer, phối hợp viên của Hiệp Hội Chặn Đứng Nạn Cưỡng Bức Trẻ Em Á Châu, đã soạn thảo tài liệu thông tin để truyền đạt đến cho cộng đồng người Á Châu bằng tiếng Anh, tiếng Cam Bốt và tiếng Trung Hoa. Ngay khi mà hiệp hội này nhận được quỉ hỗ trợ thêm cho ngân sách hàng năm hiện thời là 27.000 đô (phần lớn là do sư đóng góp của Stewart Foundation), hiệp hội sẽ dịch những tài liệu này sang tiếng Việt, tiếng Lào và những thứ tiếng khác.

Cô Redemer nói: " Để ngăn chặn loại tội ác này, các bậc phụ huynh cần phải lưu ý con trẻ của mình đi chơi ở đâu và chơi với ai. Bọn đàn ông có khuynh hướng muốn quan hệ tình dục với trẻ em biết đu ngọt và biết chọn mồi ngon: đó là những trẻ em cô đơn, những trẻ em chán đời và những trẻ em nhút nhát."

Bởi vì loại đề tài này bị coi là cấm kỵ trong nhiều gia đình Đông Nam Á, ít có ai thích bàn đến và cũng chẳng mấy ai tin rằng lại có kẻ nào đó đang tâm phạm loại tội ác này. Theo lời của các nhân viên xã hội thì đến khi tội ác xảy ra, người ta có khuynh hướng lý luận rằng tội ác đó sẽ không thể xảy đến với họ hoặc cho con cái của họ.

Chị Chanthanom Ounkeo, một nhân viên chăm sóc thiếu nhi ở Wu Yee Children's Center-Golden Gate và là người đã làm việc với những gia đình có con em là nạn nhân của những vụ cưỡng bức, cho biết: "Nhiều bậc phụ huynh không tin những chuyện gì đang xảy đến cho trẻ em vì họ không đọc báo và không nghĩ rằng có kẻ nào đó lại có thể nhẫn tâm cưỡng bức nam thiếu niên."

Nhưng chị Ounkeo cho biết sự thật lại quá đỗi phũ phàng. Gần đây chị khám phá được một vụ có liên quan đến một gã đàn ông đã cưỡng bức một cậu bé người Việt gốc Hoa mới có 12 tuổi sống ở khu Tenderloin. Theo gì chị biết thì gã đàn ông này đã gặp cậu bé Việt -Hoa ở St Boniface Church trên Golden Gate Ave., cách chỗ làm việc của chị chỉ có một dãy phố mà thôi. Người ta vẫn chưa rõ làm thế nào mà kẻ tình nghi Stephen Lewis (còn có biệt danh là David Fox) đã du dỗ được cậu bé. Cảnh sát đã bắt giữ Lewis vào ngày 15 tháng 8 và sẽ kết tội gã ta là đã gây tội ác đối với trẻ em. Cảnh sát cũng đang điều tra xem hắn ta có du dỗ những nam thiếu niên nào khác nữa hay không.

Đại úy D.J. Philpott, thuộc Ban Thanh Thiếu Niên của Nha Cảnh Sát San Francisco nói: "Có lẽ hắn cũng đã từng đi du dỗ những trẻ em chơi dùa ở Fun Center trên đường Market gần đường số 6."

Chị Ounkeo thở phào nhẹ nhõm khi được biết là kẻ tội phạm đã bị bắt. Chị cũng tỏ ra lạc quan về triển vọng thông tin cho cộng đồng người Đông Nam Á về mối đe dọa cụ thể cho trẻ em này.

Chị nói: "Tôi tin rằng từ nay trở đi nếu các đoàn thể chịu thực hiện nhiều buổi hội thảo và đưa ra nhiều thí dụ xác thực thì người dân rồi sẽ hiểu ra vấn đề để rồi họ có thể truyền đạt lại cho con em của họ và biết cách bảo vệ chúng."

Dịch vụ đa ngữ bao gồm cả tiếng Việt: Chinatown Child Development Center: 392-4453; Chinatown/North Beach Clinical Services: 398-0981; Richmond Area Multiservices: 668-5955.

NẠN CƯỚP BÓC GIA TĂNG TRONG CỘNG ĐỒNG ĐÔNG NAM Á

Phóng sự điều tra của Julie Scheff và Sophath Pak
Bản dịch Việt ngữ của Bac Hoai Tran

Nạn cướp bóc gia tăng đánh vào những người dân và thương gia gốc Đông Nam Á trong tháng 8 và tháng 9 vừa qua đã đưa đến một buổi họp với sự hiện diện của Đại úy George Kowalski của Lực Lượng Đặc Nhiệm Khu Tenderloin trực thuộc Nha Cảnh Sát San Francisco. Buổi họp đã được tiến hành ở Tenderloin Self Help Center vào ngày 19 tháng 9.

Buổi họp đã thu hút khoảng 75 người dân gốc Đông Nam Á đến tụ tập trong những văn phòng ở số 195 Golden Gate. Có 6 người đã lên đứng trước ông Kowalski và hai cảnh sát viên khác để thuật lại những chuyện cướp bóc đã xảy ra cho họ trong vài tháng vừa qua.

Trước khi có buổi họp này Đại úy Kowalski nói rằng Đại úy chỉ biết đến những vụ trộm cướp riêng rẻ. Anh nói: "Nếu có một loạt những vụ cướp bóc xảy ra thì thật sự chúng tôi không hay biết gì về chuyện đó. Không có ai báo cho chúng tôi biết cả. Vấn đề rắc rối mà chúng tôi gặp phải là sự bất đồng về ngôn ngữ và một sự thiếu tín nhiệm cảnh sát rất rõ rệt trong những cộng đồng này. Dĩ nhiên là chúng tôi sẽ phải khắc phục tình trạng này."

Trosos Sok, một người phụ nữ Cam Bốt 63 tuổi, tả lại, thông qua một thông dịch viên, về những gì đã xảy ra lúc 5 giờ 30 chiều ngày 6 tháng 8 khi mà 3 thanh niên mang mặt nạ trượt tuyết và áo khoác "Raiders" đã gõ cửa và xông vào căn phòng trọ ở trên đường Eddy nơi mà bà Trosos tá túc cùng với 7 người khác trong gia đình của bà.

Theo lời mô tả của bà Trosos Sok cho cảnh sát nghe thì những kẻ tình nghi là lứa thanh niên nói tiếng Anh với giọng của người Châu Á. Bà Sok vẫn còn nhớ là khi chúng tẩu thoát, một đứa còn la lớn: "Tao sẽ còn quay lại đây."

Poeun Pean, người đã sống ở đường Post từ 10 năm qua, cũng là nạn nhân của một vụ cướp tương tự. Ba kẻ tình nghi cũng mang mặt nạ trượt tuyết và mặc áo khoác "Raiders" đã cuỗm mất của Pean một máy quay video, một ti vi và hai vòng chuyền vàng.

Mặc dù cũng có một số cá nhân mạnh dạn đứng ra tố cáo những vụ cướp bóc, nhiều gia đình chọn giải pháp là đấu nhẹm không cho cảnh sát hay biết những gì đã xảy ra cho họ.

Một ví dụ là chỉ có một trong ba gia đình gốc Việt-Hoa sống ở chung cư số 460 đường Ellis chịu đi báo cho cảnh sát biết là gia đình của họ đã bị kẻ trộm viếng thăm.

Meng Chou, nhân viên hạ tầng cơ sở của Wu Yee Golden Gate Children's Center, nói rằng 3 gia đình này cũng giống như những gia đình Đông Nam Á khác, có lẽ sợ sự can thiệp của cảnh sát.

Chou nói: "Họ không biết nói tiếng Anh. Họ sợ bị vướng mắc vào việc hầu tòa và họ sợ bị trả thù."

Đại úy Kowalski có phần nào đồng ý với quan điểm của anh Tom Trương, quản lý chung cư 460 Ellis: "Nếu chúng tôi không có được bằng chứng, chẳng hạn như dấu tay, và nếu không một ai nhìn thấy kẻ tình nghi, thì thật sự chúng tôi cũng đành phải bó tay." Nhưng Đại úy nói thêm rằng mọi người nên khiếu nại về nạn cướp bóc để cảnh sát có thể xác định được những vùng bất yên.

Một thâu ngân viên Việt-Hoa ở một cửa tiệm tạp hóa Đông Nam Á, dù là không muốn tiết lộ tên tuổi và cửa tiệm nơi mà chị đang làm việc, cho rằng chị cần phải nói lên thực tế là cửa hiệu của chị đã bị cướp viếng 4 lần trong vòng tháng 8 và tháng 9 để cảnh sát chịu khó để ý đến vùng này.

Silen Nhok, nhân viên của International Institute và tích cực hoạt động trong Ủy Ban Đông Nam Á của North of Market Planning Coalition mà đã tổ chức buổi hội họp ngày 19 tháng 9, nhấn mạnh tầm quan trọng của việc tuyển dụng những cảnh sát gốc Đông Nam Á vào trong lực lượng cảnh sát.

Anh Nhok nói: "Với tư cách là một cộng đồng, chúng tôi đòi hỏi phải có nhiều cảnh sát viên gốc Lào, Cam Bốt và Việt Nam thêm nữa."

Đại úy Kowalski mời những người dân gốc Đông Nam Á nộp đơn xin gia nhập lực lượng cảnh sát và thông báo với cử tọa ngày hôm đó rằng tiêu chuẩn duy nhất để được tuyển lựa là một bằng tốt nghiệp trung học và đậu một kỳ sát hạch.

Ủy Ban Đông Nam Á có mở các phiên họp thường kỳ hai tháng một lần. Ủy Ban có phân phát loại sách mỏng có tựa đề "Ngăn Chặn Nạn Cướp Bóc" viết về cách bảo đảm an ninh cho gia đình bằng tiếng Lào, tiếng Việt Nam và tiếng Cam Bốt. Ủy Ban cũng họp với các cảnh sát viên để thảo luận những vấn đề liên quan đến tệ nạn cướp bóc.

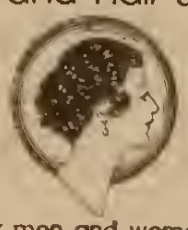
Muốn biết thêm tin tức, xin gọi điện thoại cho Chanthanom Ounkeo số điện thoại 474-2164 hoặc là 673-1720.

****

Grand Opening

****

Nail and Hair Salon



for men and women
648 Hyde Street (near Post)
922-7012
Open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday through Saturday

We speak Vietnamese, Chinese, and Spanish
Chúng tôi nói tiếng Việt, tiếng Trung Hoa, và tiếng Tây Ban Nha

Hãy học nói
tiếng Anh
tiếng Tây Ban Nha
tiếng Ý

Phương pháp cập nhật và hiệu quả: học viên trực tiếp tham gia vào việc soạn thảo chương trình học.

- Nhóm nhỏ, riêng tư
- Thời khoá biểu và địa điểm học linh động
- Học phí hợp lý

Hãy gọi điện thoại cho Lynn
474-6966
ธงนเว็าพาสาอังกิด
ﺭﻳﻦﻧﻴﻳﺎﻳﺼﺎﺳﺎﺍﻍﻍﻳﺴ

CẦN TUYỂN QUẢN LÝ VÀ KỸ THUẬT VIÊN CHUYỂN NGỮ

Một công ty Á châu có tầm cỡ cần tuyển người vào những chức vụ sau đây:

1. Quản lý chuyển ngữ: cần tuyển một người có tinh thần trách nhiệm để điều khiển và trông coi tất cả những thao tác chuyển ngữ. Cần phải có kinh nghiệm. Song ngữ Anh-Cam Bốt hoặc Trung Hoa-Cam Bốt.

2. Kỹ thuật viên chuyển ngữ: cần tuyển một vài người. Không đòi hỏi kinh nghiệm nhưng có kinh nghiệm sẽ được ưu tiên. Công ty sẵn sàng huấn luyện nếu có tinh thần học hỏi. Song ngữ Anh-Cam Bốt hoặc Trung Hoa-Cam Bốt.

Lương cao có kèm theo phúc lợi.
Hãy gửi resumé đến
P.O. Box 34117
San Francisco, CA 94134 - 0117

LỚP ANH VĂN MIỄN PHÍ
Những lớp học chiều và tối, ít học viên.St. Giles College
1 Hallidie Plaza
(Kế bên tiệm The Gap)Lầu 3
San Francisco(415) 788-3552
gần bến xe điện Powell
(góc đường Powell và Market)

HÃY GIA NHẬP LIÊN HIỆP CÁC CÔNG TY NGAY LẬP TỨC!

Đã có trên 85,000 công ty gia nhập Liên Hiệp Các Công Ty của chúng tôi một cách nhanh chóng, với một chi phí không đáng kể, và không cần đến luật sư.
Để biết thêm tin tức, hãy gọi điện thoại đến:
LIÊN HIỆP CÁC CÔNG TY
1-800-542-2677, hoặc
đường dây tiếp nối 706

911 VÀ NHỮNG NGƯỜI DÂN GỐC ĐÔNG NAM Á

Phóng sự của Julie Scheff và Vandy Sivongsay
Bản dịch Việt ngữ của Bac Hoai Tran

Nhiều dân tị nạn Đông Nam Á sống ở khu Tenderloin không biết cách gọi số 911 và còn e ngại rằng nếu họ có gọi số này đi chăng nữa thì cảnh sát cũng chẳng thèm lưu ý.

Chị Chhieng Tan, một nhân viên y tế của Chinatown-North Beach Clinical Services, cho biết rằng một số thân chủ của chị không chịu gọi số 911 trong những lúc khẩn cấp bởi vì họ không biết cách truyền đạt cho điện thoại viên.

Chị nói: "Tôi phải chỉ cho những thân chủ của tôi cách nói với điện thoại viên cảnh sát và nói rõ là họ muốn gọi cho Sở Cứu Hỏa, Cảnh Sát hay là Cứu Thương."

Trong một buổi họp gần đây do Tenderloin Self Help Center và Ủy Ban Đông Nam Á của North ofMarket Planning Coalition bảo trợ, cảnh sát viên người Mỹ gốc Hoa Alvin Yee nhấn mạnh bằng cả tiếng Anh và tiếng Trung Hoa về tầm quan trọng của việc gọi điện thoại báo cho cảnh sát để được cấp cứu.

Cảnh sát viên Yee thông báo cho một cử tọa khoảng 75 người Đông Nam Á ở buổi họp ngày 19 tháng 9 tại Tenderloin Self Help Center số 195 Golden Gate: " Tại số 911 họ có những điện thoại viên biết nói ngôn ngữ của qúi vị."

Ông Carter Douglas, trưởng phòng truyền thông của Nha Cảnh Sát San Francisco cho biết rằng điện thoại viên ở số 911 được trực tiếp liên lạc với đường dây ngôn ngữ của AT&T sử dụng tất cả các ngôn ngữ kể cả những thổ ngữ của Trung Hoa cũng như là tiếng Lào, Cam Bốt và Việt Nam.

Ông Douglas nói: "Người ta có thể bắt liên lạc với quí vị trong vòng 2 giây , và chỉ trong vòng 10 giây là người ta có thể xác định ngay được nơi cư trú của qúi vị và có đúng đó là một trường hợp khẩn cấp hay không."

Tuy được trấn an là điện thoại viên cảnh sát có thể nối đường dây cho họ với người nào đó biết rành ngôn ngữ của họ, nhiều người trong cộng đồng Đông Nam Á vẫn tỏ ra ngờ vực.

Peter Khuu, chủ tiệm V.L. Gifts and Art and Bamboo Pizza trên đường Ellis đồng ý: "Cửa tiệm bán qùa tặng của tôi đã bị cướp 5 lần và khi tôi gọi cảnh sát, mãi 30 phút sau họ mới đến."

Chỉ huy Mike Brush của lực lượng đặc nhiệm Tenderloin nói rằng ông thường nghe những lời phàn nàn của những nhà buôn như vậy. Nhưng ông thú nhận là cảnh sát cũng đành phải bó tay một khi mà kẻ tình nghi đã đào tẩu khỏi hiện trường. Ông Brush nói: "Chúng tôi không thể nào giải quyết hàng ngàn cú điện thoại chỉ trong vòng vài phút đồng hồ."

Nhưng ông nói thêm rằng đối với những cú điện thoại khẩn cấp, nếu được xác định là thật sự khẩn cấp thì cảnh sát được huy động chỉ trong vòng 5 phút 34 giây trong khu Tenderloin so với thời gian trung bình là 5 phút 59 giây trên toàn thành phố.

Trong một nỗ lực nhằm tu chỉnh một hệ thống liên lạc khẩn cấp mà ai ai cũng nhìn nhận là bị sử dụng quá tải mà chính thành phố cũng nhận thấy trong một lần kiểm tra gần đây, thành phố bây giờ đang cố gắng thông báo cho người dân biết thế nào để sử dụng hợp lý hệ thống điện thoại 911.

Theo lời của Judith Hogan, chỉ huy truyền thông của lực lượng đặc nhiệm 911 thì có nhiều người sử dụng không đúng hệ thống 911, làm nghẹt cứng đường dây của sự sống này với quá nhiều cú điện thoại về những vấn đề không khẩn cấp chẳng hạn như để báo rằng một vỉa hè nào đó đang bị nghẽn lối hoặc là để than phiền về sự ồn ào.

Chỉ Huy Douglas của Nha Cảnh Sát nói: "Lúc chính đáng nhất để sử dụng đường dây 911 là khi có một tình huống gây nguy hiểm đến mạng sống hoặc của cải."

Ông Douglas đề nghị rằng với những thắc mắc chung chung, người dân nên gọi số 553-0123, đó là đường dây gọi cảnh sát để báo về những vấn đề không khẩn cấp. Đồng thời ông cũng khuyến khích mọi người sử dụng đường dây 911 để báo về một tình huống đe dọa đến mạng sống hoặc về một vụ cướp bóc đang xảy ra.

Photo: Phil Head

Cánh xiệc Make-A-Circus đến Công Viên Boeddeker ngày 7 tháng 9 vừa qua và biến khán giả gồm đủ mọi lứa tuổi thành những người tham dự vào chương trình bằng cách dạy cho họ những trò nhảo lộn và nghệ thuật làm hề.

Những hướng Dẫn cần thiết về Việc gọi số khẩn Cấp 911

HƯỚNG DẪN :

1. Khi gặp chuyện khẩn cấp hãy cố gắng giữ bình tĩnh. Gọi điện thoại cho cảnh sát ngay lập tức. Không nên gọi bạn bè hay họ hàng.

2. Khi điện thoại viên cảnh sát trả lời, đầu tiên hãy nói rõ nơi cư ngụ của qúi vị và nội dung khẩn cấp. Thí dụ: "Tôi cư ngụ tại số 1020 đường Main và mới có một vụ cướp bóc xảy ra ở đây."

3. Hãy giữ điện thoại cho đến khi quí vị bắt được liên lạc với cảnh sát viên truyền tin và hãy trả lời những câu hỏi càng ngắn gọn và càng chính xác càng tốt.

4. Khi trả lời những câu hỏi của cảnh sát viên truyền tin, hãy tập trung vào việc mô tả từng kẻ tình nghi một. Hãy nhớ luôn luôn mô tả kẻ tình nghi từ đầu xuống chân. Thí dụ:

• Mô tả: chủng tộc, giới tính, tuổi tác, chiều cao, màu tóc, màu mắt.

• Những đặc điểm nhân dạng: thẹo, râu mép, kiểng, ...

• Y phục: loại y phục và màu sắc của y phục.

• Vũ khí: hãy ghi nhớ xem kẻ tình nghi đã sử dụng loại súng gì, loại dao gì, hay là một loại vũ khí nào khác.

• Những nhận xét:

• Phương tiện đào tẩu: số xe, hiệu xe, loại xe, năm và màu sắc của xe.

5. Đối với những vấn đề khác có liên quan đến cảnh sát nhưng không thuộc loại khẩn cấp, hãy gọi số 553-0123.

Bà Le Ly Hayslip

Tác giả Việt Nam diễn thuyết tại tiệc gây qũi của *Tenderloin Times*

Một tác giả người Việt sẽ nói chuyện trong chương trình gây quỉ của báo *Tenderloin Times*

Bà Le Ly Hayslip, tác giả của truyện "Khi Trời Đất Đảo Lộn", sẽ nói chuyện trong chương trình gây quỉ của báo Tenderloin Times vào ngày mùng 2 tháng 10 tai Elks Club, số 450 đường Post. Cuốn hồi ký này kể lại thời thơ ấu của nữ văn sĩ ở một tỉnh lị miền Trung Việt. Cuốn sách đã được các nhà phê bình khen ngợi và sẽ được đạo diễn Oliver Stone đựng thành phim.

Khi người ta hỏi về cảm nghĩ của chị khi chị mới đến Hoa Kỳ, chị trả lời:"Tôi đến Hoa Kỳ năm 1970 và tôi rất ngạc nhiên là những câu chuyện về chiến tranh Việt Nam hoàn toàn là phiến diện. Người ta không bao giờ hỏi về cảm nghĩ của một người dân làng khi nhà anh ta bị đốt, làng anh ta bị thiêu rụi, vợ anh ta bị thương và con cái của anh ta bị giết chết. Nhưng tôi là một trong những người dân làng đó."

Chương trình ngày mùng 2 tháng 10 cũng sẽ đề cao 4 cá nhân đã có những đóng góp đáng kể cho khu Tenderloin. Họ là Janice Mirikitani của Glide Church; phóng viên Rachel Gordon của tờ San Francisco Independent; Cha Tom Flower, người đã đứng ra tổ chức một nhà bếp cho người nghèo; và Betty Mangual, một nhà hoạt động của khu Tenderloin.

Muốn biết tin tức về vé vào cửa xin hãy gọi đến 776-0700.

TIN NGẮN

Bản dịch Việt ngữ của Bac Hoai Tran

TIN VỀ VIỆT NAM

Trung Hoa nhận thấy có khả năng bình thường hóa quan hệ với Việt Nam.

Thủ tướng Li Peng của Trung Hoa tuyên bố trong một buổi phỏng vấn của một đài truyền hình Hồng Kông là hai nước Trung Hoa và Việt Nam sẽ nhanh chóng tái lập mối quan hệ bình thường.

Lời tuyên bố trước công chúng này của ông Li Peng là lời tuyên bố đầu tiên của một tiến trình tái lập mối quan hệ giữa hai nước đã và đang được đẩy mạnh từ tháng 9 vừa qua khi mà những nhà lãnh đạo Trung Hoa và Việt Nam đã hội đàm bí mật ở thành phố Chengdu. Theo những nguồn tin tức ngoại giao cho biết thì cả hai bên đang chuẩn bị cho cuộc hội nghị thượng đỉnh giữa Bí thư Đảng Cộng Sản Trung Hoa Hian Zemin và Bí thư Đảng Cộng Sản Việt Nam Đỗ Mười ở Bejing vào tháng 11 tới đây.

Việt Nam có tân Tổng Tư Lệnh Quân Đội.

Việt Nam Thông Tấn Xã loan báo vào ngày 12 tháng 9 vừa qua là Thứ Trưởng Bộ Quốc Phòng Đào Đình Luyện sẽ lên nắm chức vụ chỉ huy Bộ Tổng Tham Mưu của Quân Đội Nhân Dân Việt Nam và Lê Khả Phiêu, từ chức vụ Phó Ban sẽ lên nắm chức vụ Trưởng Ban của Ban Chính Trị Bộ Tổng Tham Mưu.

Việt Nam muốn gia nhập tổ chức ASEAN

Một hội nghị kéo dài 5 ngày mang tên "Đường Hướng Mới Của Việt Nam và Những Kinh Nghiệm Của ASEAN " đã được tổ chức tại Hà Nội từ ngày 27 đến ngày 31 tháng 8. Dưới sự bảo trợ của Chính quyền Việt Nam và một viện thông tin tư có trụ sở ở Singapore, hội nghị này đã nghiên cứu khả năng tham gia của Việt Nam vào tổ chức ASEAN. Việt Nam xem việc gia nhập vào ASEAN là một cơ hội để mở rộng thị trường xuất cảng của mình.

- *Indochina Digest*

TIN ĐỊA PHƯƠNG

Vụ thưa kiện về sự cung cấp không đầy đủ những mẫu đơn xin welfare song ngữ.

Tham gia vào một nhóm người đã kiện tụng lên đến Tòa Thượng Án vào ngày 27 tháng 8 vừa qua người ta thấy có một số người gốc Trung Hoa, Cam Bốt và Việt Nam. Họ kiện Bộ Xã Hội của thành phố này là đã không cung cấp những nhân viên thành thạo hai thứ tiếng và những giấy tờ song ngữ cho những người đến xin welfare như là luật pháp của tiểu bang đã qui định.

–*Asian Week*, tháng 9 năm 1991

Tỉ lệ ung thư

Công trình nghiên cứu đầu tiên về những loại ung thư trong cộng đồng người Việt do University of Southern California thực hiện cho thấy những tỉ lệ cao khác thường của bệnh ung thư dạ dày, thực quản, gan và vòm cuống họng trong những người di dân Việt Nam sống ở địa hạt Los Angeles.

Trong giới phụ nữ, bệnh ung thư phổ biến nhất là ung thư cổ tử cung với mức độ xảy ra gấp 2,5 lần tỉ lệ dự đoán.

Bác sĩ Ronald Ross, người đã đóng vai trò chủ yếu trong công trình nghiên cứu, cho biết rằng những kết qúa về tỉ lệ bệnh ung thư chứng minh một sự liên quan nào đó với chế độ ăn uống.

Bác sĩ Ross cũng cho biết là công trình nghiên cứu này được thực hiện một phần nào là do mối quan tâm đến những loại hình bạch huyết độc tính và bệnh ung thư máu trong giới dân di cư Việt Nam và một khả năng liên quan đến sự nhiễm độc chất đa cam. Bác sĩ Ross còn cho biết tuy vậy các nhà nghiên cứu đã không tìm thấy bằng chứng nào về nguy cơ gia tăng của bệnh bạch huyết độc tính và bệnh hoại huyết.

Công trình này đã nghiên cứu 531 người Việt Nam bao gồm cả hai giới phái mà các bác sĩ đã chẩn đoán là mắc bệnh ung thư trong giai đoạn từ 1972 đến 1988. Muốn biết thêm tin tức xin liên lạc với Doug Stokke hoặc Richard Cox, số điện thoại là (213) 342-2830.